

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 27th October, at Kellett Crest, the Peak, the wife of H. W. SLADE, of a son. [2716]

On the 8th October, at Ormsby Villas, Kowloon, the wife of ALFRED HENRY MANCELL, of a daughter.

On the 29th October, Robinson Road, Kowloon, the wife of Dr. J. H. SWAN, of a daughter.

On the 31st October, at No. 12 Bellics Terrace, the wife of J. M. XAVIER, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd October, 1899, at the English Church, Nagasaki, Japan, by the Rev. A. R. Fuller, FREDERICK HENSON, Chinese Customs Service, to MELITA, daughter of the late Aug. BERLET, Ottawa, Illinois, U.S.A.

At the Cathedral, Shanghai, on Monday, the 23rd October, 1899, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., the Rev. J. D. LIDDELL, of the London Mission, to MARY, third daughter of Henry REDDIN, Esq., Glasgow.

At the Consulate of the United States, at Tientsin, on Monday, the 23rd October, 1899, by the Rev. C. A. Stanley, WALTER SCOTT EMMENS to KATHARINE THORBURN MACGOWAN.

At the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Shanghai, on the 26th October, 1899, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., GEORGE EDWARD STEWART, to MARIE CATHERINE, eldest daughter of George PEEBLES, of Shanghai.

On the 26th October, at Canton, by Superintendent Koller, HUGO KAMMEL, of Hongkong, to ELSIE BETH BLINDOW.

DEATHS.

On the 8th October, at Tokyo, ERNST KELLMAN, a native of Hamburg, Germany, aged 44, of heart failure.

At No. 24 Shimoyamate-dori, Nichome, on the 21st October, ELIZABETH EDITH, beloved wife of PEGGY SWAN SYMES, aged 37 years.

At 4, Singkeepang Road, Shanghai, on the 25th October, JAMES PALLISER, late of the Municipal Sanitary Department, aged 62 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIIS.

The English mail of the 29th September arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, on the 28th October (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 10th October arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 1st November (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Greathouse, the American adviser to the Judicial Department of the Korean Government, who has been ill for some time, died at Seoul on the 21st October.

A special telegram to the *N. C. Daily News*, dated Chungking, 26th October, says the headman at Kweiyang, who is charged with the murder of Mr. Fleming, has been arrested and identified. The Chinese are petitioning the authorities at Peking with the view of getting him released.

The *Echo de Chine* says that at the audience at which M. de Giers presented the translation of the account of the Czar's travels in the Far East before he ascended the throne, the Empress Dowager occupied the throne, and the Emperor was seated below her and did not speak a single word during the ceremony.

From Japan papers we learn that Dr. Murata Shoto and ten other Japanese doctors and four assistants have been engaged by the Taotai of Newchwang in connection with plague work at that port. Their term of engagement is for six months at a salary of 200 taels a month. Dr. Murata was an assistant in the Infectious Diseases Hospital of Dr. Kitasato, the noted bacteriologist.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge inform us that they have received a telegram from Messrs Wm. G. Hale & Co., Saigon, to the effect that quarantine has been taken off at that port. The following telegram was received by the Government on Thursday from H.B.M. Consul at Saigon:—"Free pratique granted to arrivals."

In consequence of the absence of rain proclamations were posted at Canton on the 25th October ordering the people to abstain from meat and prohibiting the slaughter of cattle. On the following day the Viceroy, Governor, Judges, Magistrates, and other high functionaries went officially to the Dragon Temple in the old City to offer up prayers for rain.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) are indebted to Capt. J. H. Brown, of the steamer *Tamsui*, for the following report, dated Newchwang, the 18th inst.:—Passing the N.E. Promontory, 8 a.m. 17th instant, observed signals flying from signal staff at Light House as follows:—"Report to the Customs a schooner wrecked hereabouts." I expect it to be a lumber vessel bound North, either to Tientsin or Newchwang. Saw several pine planks floating about in the neighbourhood of the Promontory. Experienced a violent N.W. gale on the 15th and 16th inst., and no doubt during that gale she ran on the rocks. We could see no signs of any wreck along the coast.

The plague at Newchwang is evidently yielding to the cold N. W. winds from Mongolia, as within the past few days telegraphic returns have only recorded six or seven cases *per diem* instead of the former hundred or more.—*China Gazette*.

It is stated that the marriage of the Prince Imperial of Japan is fixed for next spring. There was some idea of an Occidental trip for the Prince before the ceremony, but the present plan is understood by the *Japan Mail* to be that the marriage shall take place first.

A private letter from Weihaiwei dated the 11th October which has been courteously communicated to us (*N. C. Daily News*) says:—"Yesterday we had a great sham fight. We were against the Marines and Royal Blues and with the Chinese. We gained the day easily, the Chinese really doing splendidly, their movements being perfectly under control, and they were as calm as old stagers; you would have been astonished." Those who know how willing, courageous, and faithful the Chinese are when well treated will not be astonished that those who have enlisted under Colonel Bower have already earned this warm commendation from one competent to judge.

A few days ago the *Kuowenpao* had a scathing article on official ignorance, and cited various illustrations. When Portugal notified her desire to have a representative at Peking for instance, the officials were taken aback, not knowing of any such country. Many of them, our contemporary avers, hold the belief that the reason Western Powers are so desirous of obtaining land in China is due to their being tired of living in their ships, and wanting some *terra firma* to locate on. In the same way they share with the masses the belief that the real object of the Missionaries is to obtain black eyes for their nationals at home, who are condemned to the disfigurement of yellow and green eyes, and covet the inky darkness of Chinese optics. It seems hardly credible that such childish ignorance can exist in China's official classes, but it is a fact that it does so exist in a great many instances, and we cannot marvel if difficulties and dangers beset the path of foreign enterprise under the circumstances.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

Hongkong is not the only place where members of the criminal classes are able to secure employment as domestic servants. Tokyo newspapers contain a statement to the effect that Sekiguchi Shozo, who attempted, some time ago, to assassinate a maid-servant in the employment of a well-known British resident, proved, on investigation, to be an escaped criminal who had committed seven murders in Osaka and been sentenced to penal servitude for life. How a man who had perpetrated such a series of crimes failed to pay the penalty with his life, and how he happened to be at large, we are not told. The story (remarks the *Japan Mail*) goes on to say that the gentleman whose household had been thus disturbed—we omit names—subsequently engaged a man named Abe Sojiro in the place of the ex-assassin, and took the precaution of reporting the fact to the police. The latter, on inquiry, found that Abe was an ex-gambler, who had been sentenced, four years ago, to five months' imprisonment. Pleasant people to shelter in the "bosoms of our families."

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD ON AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

(*Daily Press*, 31st October.)

The speech made by Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD at the dinner given in his honour at the Hotel Metropole, London, on the 28th September, is interesting from many points of view. His Excellency stoutly maintained that Great Britain had more than held her own in China, and it certainly was not to be expected that the British Minister would cry stinking fish. Sir CLAUDE carefully avoided all reference to Russia, France, or any individual Powers, as was to be expected from Her Majesty's Representative, and he was characteristically modest in claiming but a small share of credit to himself for the "concessions" obtained from China. Indeed, he not only passed over the matter of the extension of the boundaries of this Colony altogether, but he declined to regard the opening of the West River and of certain new treaty ports as concessions; he considered them only as results, "results which, if carried out in a right and proper spirit, and with liberality, will be of immense benefit to China herself and to civilization generally." We think this is the right way to look at these changes, which go towards the opening up of the Chinese Empire to trade and progress, to the increase of the Imperial revenue, and the great enrichment of the Chinese producer and trader. We are glad to note that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD acknowledges the justice of the criticism passed on the Chinese Government's methods of carrying into effect the "concessions" extracted from them. His experience, he says, somewhat justifies this criticism. The Chinese Government have an uncomfortable way of whittling down a measure until it becomes worthless. This is really the main grievance we have at the present moment, with regard to the opening of the inland waterways, from which so much was expected when the step was first decided upon. Yet while admitting the justice of this criticism, we find Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD quoting Sir ROBERT HART's famous memorandum in which he gives an interpretation of the Regulations for Inland Navigation which has rendered the privilege almost valueless to the foreign shipowner and trader. The British Minister is inclined to echo the Inspector-General's opinion that the provincial official's fears for his revenue and the foreigner's alarm lest the restrictions imposed should thwart the development of trade both argue from fears and not from facts. At any rate, says Sir CLAUDE, it would only be right to give these regulations a fair trial. This is, we regretfully note, merely an echo of what Mr. BAX-LEONSIDER said in his letter to the Steamboat Companies of the 24th August, which concluded by remarking that sufficient time had not elapsed, nor had sufficient data been forthcoming, to enable him to take action to obtain a modification of the regulations at the present time. As a matter of fact, no further experience of the working of these regulations is required to convince any reasonable person of their obstructive and unreasonable nature. Mr. MANSFIELD, the British Consul at Canton, has shown in the clearest manner possible that, in the light of the interpretation placed by the Inspector-General on them, the Steam Navigation Inland Regulations are absolutely valueless. In effect the inland waterways are now not open to steam navigation; only certain ports and calling stations are open, and even these can only be touched at under conditions. What was expected when we were

told that the inland waterways had been opened to foreign trade was that steamers could call at all treaty ports and touch at any other places, where there was a Customs Station, to land passengers or cargo. Under such conditions there would undoubtedly be a considerable development of trade, but with the restrictions now imposed, and which were recently applied, the prospects of developing trade are very slender. We cannot quite agree, therefore, with His Excellency the British Minister that the Regulations should be allowed further time for a fair trial. They have had a fair trial and have been found so strained and interpreted against foreign trade as to render them prohibitive. It will be open to Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD to apply to the Tsungli Yamen for a revision of these Regulations in the sense of ridding them of any ambiguous clauses which can be construed into a barrier against the exercise of the important privilege obtained by him, and from which we had reasonably hoped so much. His Excellency will, we trust, on his return to Peking, be able to crown his work in this respect by obtaining a fresh understanding by which the inland waterways will be made free to foreign trade and navigation unhampered by discriminating regulations devised to nullify the value of the "result."

SANITARY CONVENiences AND INSANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

(*Daily Press*, 30th October.)

The Hon. R. D. OAMSBY, in seconding the motion for the second reading of the Insanitary Properties Bill at the last meeting of the Legislative Council, quoted the opinion of an eminent authority on sanitation, supported by statistics, to the effect that overcrowding is the greatest of all sanitary evils, and said:—"I have little doubt in my own mind that the ultimate predisposing cause of plague will be found to be overcrowding, and that the unenviable notoriety of our city is due to the fact that we have the densest population of any city in the world, amounting in one district to nearly 1,000 persons per acre." When to this fearful overcrowding is added a deficiency of ordinary sanitary conveniences, and conditions are maintained that incite the overcrowded population to the daily commission of sins against sanitation, the usual evils of overcrowding must be multiplied many times over. A useful and interesting report on the latrine and urinal accommodation of the city and its connection with the fouling of storm water drains has just been presented to the Sanitary Board by Mr. R. F. DRURY, the Sanitary Surveyor, and is to be considered at the next regular meeting of the Board. The state of affairs it discloses is almost inconceivably disgusting and reflects the greatest possible discredit on the Government, and especially on the Colonial Office Authorities, who have hitherto obstructed proposals that have been made to increase the latrine accommodation. From Mr. DRURY's report we learn that there are twelve Government and seventeen privately owned latrines, the whole twenty-nine having 687 seats to be used by the Chinese male population of 116,650, giving an average of 169 persons per seat, which, as Mr. DRURY says, is a most insanitary state of affairs to obtain in a tropical climate. Owing to the inadequate provision of seats, the distance apart of latrines, and the fact that private latrine owners make a charge of one cash per head for the use of the latrine, a great many of the Chinese are

driven to and have good excuse to make private accommodation, "which generally consists of a leaky wooden bucket placed in the yard, on the roof, and even in the kitchen of their houses, and if the surface thereof is unsound the subsoil is polluted and the inmates suffer later on in some manner or other." Proceeding, Mr. DRURY says that owing to the filthy habits and poverty of the people a great number of the population empty their nightsoil down the most convenient gully under cover of night, which is one of the greatest causes of the fouling of the storm-water drains, the effluent of which is shown by an analysis, given as an appendix, to be still sewage pure and simple, in one case fouler than the effluent of the sewer proper. We would commend this passage to the attention of the advocates of the bucket system; it appears to show that that system, which so many regard as the best guarantee for the health of the colony, is attended with all the evils and dangers of the water carriage system without any of the safeguards associated with the latter. This and other passages in the report also invite reflections on the much vexed question of the separate versus the combined system of drainage. We note that Mr. DRURY says "We have a splendid sewerage system," but it is clear from his report that very stringent precautions are necessary to prevent the misuse of the storm-water drains. Practical recommendations are made in the report for dealing with the evils it exposes. Briefly these recommendations are that increased and conveniently situated free latrine accommodation should be provided, that privately owned latrines should be done away with that the sanitary arrangements of private houses should be registered and supervised, and that European drain inspectors should be appointed, who should have no other duties whatever than that of looking after the drains. Mr. DRURY anticipates that the sale of the faecal matter from the latrines would cover the cost of his scheme. It would probably lead to more satisfactory results, however, if the mercantile element were eliminated altogether from the consideration of the question, for it is of vastly more importance to the community that the colony should be placed in a state of thorough sanitation than that a little benefit should accrue to the revenue. From a sanitary point of view the provision of trough closets in all public latrines would be the best method of dealing with that side of the case. The water supply question might be met by pumping up sea water for the purpose.

(*Daily Press*, 1st November.)

In his report on the latrine question Mr. DRURY, after recommending the provision of increased public accommodation, points out that the female Chinese population must continue to use the bucket system, but he suggests that "Legislation should make it compulsory for all Asiatics having a pail or commode in their houses to obtain a licence or register the same, with a view to give the Government an opportunity of inspecting the place in which it is proposed to place the bucket." This revives a controversy of ten years ago. The Building Ordinance as originally drafted provided that "Every person who shall erect a new domestic building shall cause the same to be provided with a suitable privy of brick . . . so constructed as to open into the outer air and not into the building." This provision met with strong opposition and was ultimately withdrawn. In the debate in the Legislative

Council the then Surveyor-General, Hon. J. M. PRIOR, said the clause was inserted because it was assumed that in respect of this colony, as of every other civilised country, a human habitation could not do without a provision of this kind. So most people unacquainted with the peculiarities of the Chinese would imagine. After very careful consideration, however, both in the Legislative Council and the Sanitary Board, it was held finally by the Government that the balance of the argument was against the provision. In announcing the withdrawal of the clause, Governor Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX said he had come to the conclusion that to enforce the keeping of a privy in every private house in Hongkong, under the conditions in which the people live, would in all probability do more harm than good. His Excellency's reasons for this conclusion were that it would be almost impossible to ensure that the privy should be kept clean without continual Government supervision, which, even if it were practicable at all, would mean continual intrusion into private premises. Owing to the way tenements were let out in Hongkong, His Excellency said, it would be no one's particular duty to see the privy was kept clean and therefore the probability was that it never would be done. Even the head of the Public Works Department, he added, who at first felt very strongly on the subject, was now also convinced that to have privies in all private houses would probably result in more instead of less insanitary conditions. That particular provision of the Bill was therefore allowed to drop. That is ten years ago, and the condition to-day, as described by Mr. DRURY, is as follows:—The private accommodation generally consists of a leaky wooden bucket placed in the yard, on the roof, and even in the kitchen, and if the surface is unsound the subsoil is polluted; and a great number of the people empty their night-soil down the most convenient gully under cover of night, thereby fouling the storm-water drains, and this after the Government have expended \$275,000 to divert sewage and sullage from the storm-water drains. It may be doubted, as Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX once wrote, whether the evidences of material and moral achievement, presented as it were in a focus, make anywhere a more forcible appeal to eye and imagination than in Hongkong and whether any other spot on the earth is thus more likely to excite or much more fully justifies pride in the name of Englishman. But from a sanitary point of view the city of Victoria is but a whitened sepulchre, and few of the European community, living in their pleasantly situated villas and terraces, have any idea of the rottenness and corruption to be found within. Our moral and material prosperity is now threatened by the steadily recurring epidemics of plague, and the evidence warrants the belief that the persistency of the disease—the persistency being greater here than in any Chinese city—is due not alone to overcrowding but also to our defective methods of dealing with the night-soil question. In view of the important issues involved we need offer no excuse for obtruding such an unpleasant subject on the attention of our readers.

It was reported at the Central Police Station on Monday night that there had been removed to the Government Civil Hospital Martini Agaria, a seaman on board the Argentine training ship *Presidente Sarmiento*, who had been stabbed in the back by a shipmate of his named Wanaki, who was still at large. The wounds are not dangerous.

OVERCROWDING AND ITS EFFECTS ON PLAGUE EPIDEMICS.

(*Daily Press*, 2nd November.)

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on Tuesday His Excellency the Governor said he had very great difficulty on the question of overcrowding, and that statistics did not bear out the general assumption that the insanitary state of the town was due to surface overcrowding, or that the mortality from plague followed the rate of overcrowding in the town. The return of cases of plague recently presented to the Council would seem *prima facie* to warrant His Excellency's scepticism as to the connection between overcrowding and plague. The return covers the period from the 1st January to the 8th September of the present year and gives particulars relating to 836 cases occurring in 681 houses in the city of Victoria. From this return we learn that in No. 10 district, where there is a population of only 29.26 to the acre, the mortality from plague during the period mentioned amounted to over seven per thousand, whereas in No. 5 district, which is the most densely populated, having 968.26 persons to the acre, the mortality was six per thousand. The highest mortality, 10.6 per thousand, occurred in No. 9 district, which has 620 persons to the acre, as against the 968.26 persons of No. 5 district with a mortality of six per thousand. But it may be argued, and we think with some reason, that the city must be taken as a whole, and that for the purpose of the present enquiry comparisons between different districts will prove misleading, for with the population moving freely throughout the whole city the exposure to infection is not confined to those residing in the most overcrowded districts. A case occurring in No 1 district, for instance, may have been contracted in No. 5 district, and so on. Also we find that although there is a considerable difference in the number of persons per acre in the different districts, which is what is understood by surface crowding, the house crowding, that is, the number of persons occupying a floor, is as great in the sparsely populated districts as in the more densely populated ones. Thus in No. 1 district, with its 15.70 persons per acre, there are 8.68 persons per floor, while in No. 5 district, with its 968.26 persons per acre, there are 7.78 persons per floor. The statistics therefore do not negative the assumption that the persistency of plague epidemics in the colony is due to overcrowding, using the term as embracing both surface crowding and house crowding. Adding to overcrowding the insanitary conditions prevailing with respect to the disposal of night-soil, the virulence and long continuance of the epidemics seems theoretically sufficiently accounted for. The theory, however, cannot be demonstrated by actual proof. It is still a case of groping in the dark.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI advanced another and an entirely new theory, namely, that the heavy mortality from plague is due to the fact that a large proportion of the population are underfed, eating meat only once or twice a week, and that their constitutions are consequently unable to resist the inroads of the disease. He also spoke of them as being insufficiently clothed. That theory, we think, may at once be set aside. The proportion of the population who suffer from actual privation, either in the matter of food or clothing, is, we should think, actually smaller in Hongkong than in many other large cities. In the winter every

coolie can produce one or more wadded jackets. As to food, it is true the diet of the people is largely vegetable, but as a rule it is sufficient in quantity, and we should not think a vegetable diet was in itself more favourable to plague than a meat diet. In former times the plague wrought as much havoc amongst the flesh-eating and beer-drinking people of London and various other English towns as it has latterly done amongst the Chinese of Hongkong.

While disagreeing with Dr. HO KAI on the privation theory we are glad to note his remarks as to the real remedy for overcrowding being the opening up of the suburbs and rendering them readily accessible by tramway and ferry. Here again, however, he was a little reckless in his statements. "Sometimes," he said, "they had to wait half-an-hour or an hour for the Chinese ferry boat before they could cross, and as regarded the English Company, their charge was too excessive for the labouring Chinese to make use of their ferry." Now the fare by the Chinese launches running to Yaumati, for which Dr. HO KAI says people have sometimes to wait an hour, is two cents, whereas the Star Ferry Company charges one cent (or less than a farthing) for the trip to Tsimshatsui, and the service is a ten minutes one from 5.40 a.m. to 8 p.m. and a half-hourly one from 8 p.m. to midnight. If in all other directions an equally good service were provided there would be little to complain of. The importance of opening up communication with the suburbs has often been referred to in the press, and we trust that Dr. HO KAI's mention of it in the Legislative Council may induce the Government to give some attention to the question.

THE LADYSMITH DISASTER.

(*Daily Press*, 3rd November.)

In the capitulation of the Irish Fusiliers, Gloucesters, and the 10th Mountain Battery to the Boers we have a repetition almost of the humiliation of Majuba Hill. Like the Press at home, we must suspend judgment on the disaster pending details, but in the meantime astonishment cannot fail to be felt that a small force on foot should have been detached to operate against a mounted enemy. The Boers are mostly mounted, and it is this, as well as their actual number, that places them at an advantage as compared with the British force in North Natal. Being mounted, the enemy's force is much more mobile than the British, the rapidity of the latter's movements necessarily being that of the slowest unit. The Boers are thus favourably circumstanced for cutting off any detached body of foot soldiers such as the unfortunate Irish Fusiliers and Gloucesters. The capture of the 18th Hussars, reported last week, was also no doubt the result of a surprise which the Boers were able to successfully execute owing to their readiness of movement and knowledge of the country, which is extremely hilly and lends itself readily to concealment of the enemy. The theory entertained in military circles seems to be that the Hussars had unsaddled for a halt in what was supposed to be a safe position and that they were surprised and captured before they had time to re-form. Support is lent to this theory by the fact that thirty men under a sergeant fought their way through. These were presumably the guard, who had remained mounted. Had the whole force been mounted probably the surprise would not have been attempted, or if attempted would have had a different result. This incident and the more recent capture of

the Irish Fusiliers, the Gloucesters, and the 10th Mountain Battery suggests that our people have not taken quite a correct measure of their opponents and have unduly exposed themselves. Two such lessons should suffice to bring the real facts home.

Now that General BULLER has arrived at the Cape and that large additions to the British force are close at hand we may shortly look for news of a different character from that which we have been lately receiving. In the meantime, in estimating the present position at Ladysmith, it should be borne in mind that General WHITE is acting on the defensive and holding in check a formidable invasion. The Boers adopted the policy of precipitating hostilities in order to make a dash into Natal before the full British army was in the field. For that purpose they have assembled a very large force, characterised, as above noted, by extreme mobility, and it is evident from the results so far that the force, undisciplined though it is said to be, is handled with considerable tactical skill and is able to give a good account of itself. According to a telegram of the 30th October the strength of the force trying to invest Ladysmith was estimated at from sixteen to twenty thousand. It is difficult to say exactly what General WHITE's force is at the present moment, but according to a telegram dated 12th October there were at that date eight battalions of Infantry, six Field Batteries and a Mountain Battery, and four regiments of Cavalry at Ladysmith and Glencoe. The only reinforcement of which definite information has been received is that of a strong Naval brigade, but it is to be presumed that other troops have also been sent up. It seems, however, that General WHITE is fighting against odds and is in some danger of having his communications cut. Whatever his force may have been originally and with its subsequent additions, it must now be less by some five thousand or thereabouts, owing to loss by capture, in killed and wounded, and by sickness. A feeling of relief will be experienced when news is received that reinforcements have arrived and that Ladysmith is secure.

KANG YU-WAI: AN UNWELCOME VISITOR.

(*Daily Press*, 30th October).

What is to be done with KANG YU-WEI? The notorious reformer took passage at Vancouver by the *Empress of India* for Japan, but the Japanese Government having refused him permission to land in that country he is coming on to Hongkong, where he is due to arrive on Wednesday. Whatever opinions may be entertained regarding the reform movement in China, KANG cannot be regarded as a welcome guest in Hongkong. We understand that there are divisions in the reform camp and that the different sections speak of each other with considerable bitterness, and in particular serious aspersions are now cast upon KANG YU-WEI. To the foreign public, however, KANG is known simply as a reformer whose zeal outran his discretion and precipitated a serious crisis at Peking, involving a virtual deposition of the Emperor and the setting of a price on KANG's own head. KANG's escape was facilitated by British assistance, and in ordinary course he could not be denied an asylum on British soil, but it is particularly inconvenient that he should seek that asylum in Hongkong. It is not desirable that this colony should be made a hotbed of intrigue against the established government of China, or that

we should harbour Chinese outlaws whose presence here might incite desperate and unscrupulous characters to the crime of assassination. Dr. SUN YAT-SEN, having been engaged in the promotion of a rebellion directed from Hongkong, was not allowed to take up his residence again in this colony, and there can be no question that the decision of the Government in that matter was right and prudent. KANG's case is not on all fours with that of SUN, inasmuch as the former endeavoured to carry out his policy by constitutional means and not by rebellion. That, however, does not change the presumption that KANG's life would not be safe in Hongkong without constant and special police protection. All things considered it would be more satisfactory if he would "move on" and take up his residence at Singapore or at some other point still more remote from China.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Tuesday afternoon a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCE the GOVERNOR (Sir Henry BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

His EXCELLENCE Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to lay on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 7). A reference to the report will show that it refers to two matters. There is an item of \$2,000 in aid of the Water Account, and the other matter has reference to the Supply Bill. The first vote was recommended unanimously by the Finance Committee. With regard to the Supply Bill, all the items were recommended, but when the Committee came to that part of the Estimates dealing with "Public Works Extraordinary" a wish was expressed on behalf of the unofficial members that the consideration of the items under that head should be postponed for a fortnight in order that the unofficial members might have more time to go into the items, and knowing that your Excellency was desirous of giving every opportunity for full consideration of the Estimates, I took upon myself to adjourn the meeting of the Finance Committee for a fortnight. I therefore move that the vote on account of Water Account of \$2,000 be approved.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE LAW RELATING TO SOLICITORS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg leave to move the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Law Relating to Solicitors. Honourable members will remember that in the early part of this year there was an Ordinance passed through the Council to amend the law relating to solicitors. That Ordinance was sent to the Secretary of State, and these amendments have been introduced in accordance with his instructions. Clause 2 provides that—"Upon any taxation of costs, the Taxing Officer may, in determining the remuneration, if any, to be allowed to a solicitor for his services, have regard, subject to any general rules or orders already made or hereafter to be made on that subject, to the skill,

labour, and responsibility involved." That provision is one which is in force in England. With regard to clause 3 of the Bill, that has been introduced in order to avoid the possibility of any ambiguity.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the second reading of the Bill was passed.

The Bill having been considered in committee, and no alterations being made, on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL.

The Council went into committee to resume consideration of the Insanitary Properties Bill.

His EXCELLENCE the GOVERNOR—I think we had reached clause 4 (which refers to cubicles).

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE said that with regard to the question of limiting the size of cubicles, the Sanitary Board had had the question under consideration the previous day, and on behalf of the Board he would beg to suggest that in sub-section 9 the words "four feet" be altered to "six feet." That was the original recommendation of the Board.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said he was inclined to recommend that the clause should be left as it was. He thought four feet from the window would be enough to allow of the window being opened wide. It seemed to him that the taking away of the cubicle from the window would really be removing a valuable space from the owner's floor. Probably it might be used by servants to sleep in or grown-up children belonging to a family occupying a cubicle, but if they took over six feet they would increase by 50 per cent what had been described as lost space. However, that was not so important as the fact that he considered four feet enough. It would give ample room for air and light to get in. He must say that he was in favour of leaving the clause as it was.

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—I beg to second the amendment.

His EXCELLENCE the GOVERNOR—It is not necessary to second an amendment in committee.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI supported the view enunciated by the Director of Public Works. He considered that removing the cubicle two feet further from the window would not enable the light to penetrate very much further. He considered it a useless waste of valuable space and that it would not effect any improvement.

On the matter being put to the Council it was decided to leave the sub-section unaltered.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE suggested that in sub-section 9 "eight feet by eight feet" be substituted for "64 square feet." He said the object of his suggestion was to prevent a row of very narrow cubicles being constructed on either side of the room with a very narrow passage in the middle. He took it that the intention was, when that sub-section was drafted, that there should be an area of eight feet long by eight feet wide, or 64 feet square. As the sub-section stood now a cubicle might be constructed of a very narrow shape and still contain 64 square feet.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI said the proposed alteration would serve no useful purpose. All cubicles must be of a certain width in order to hold a Chinese bed, which was of a certain size. The bedstead as a rule measured about four feet six inches wide and six to seven feet long, and this had to be placed in a cubicle together with a table and a wash-stand, but if the words "eight feet by eight feet" were inserted it would prevent many cubicles from being made, although the area might be sufficient. In all these cases it was quite sufficient if they determined upon the size of the cubicle, and then the people might be allowed to make their cubicle any shape they might choose in order to meet their requirements. He thought the arbitrary fixing of eight feet by eight feet would be rather a hardship, and he suggested that the sub-section should remain as it was. It must be remembered that this sub-section had been considered by a large number of persons who had taken a great deal of time in getting it up. He thought the Bill before them was as the Director of Public Works had described it—a compromise.

His EXCELLENCE the GOVERNOR—Assuming the present Bill is not interfered with where does any diminution of overcrowding come in by the Bill before us now?

The Hon Dr. HO KAI said the Bill before them did not provide any remedy, or effective remedy, for overcrowding. It only made more space for ventilation and saw that every house had a back yard or passage so that the people could get the air in from the back and have a through ventilation. At the present time some houses had not got a backyard; therefore proper ventilation was impossible. They might have an open front, and yet the air did not circulate through unless they had an outlet at the back. Therefore, so far as he could see, the present Bill dealt with the ventilation of houses and the Bill had his support, and he believed it had the support of other members of the Council; but as a measure to diminish overcrowding, the Bill would scarcely touch it at all. The surface overcrowding was not provided for in the Bill except by clause 6. The height of buildings was allowed to remain as now, and only on land which was acquired from the Crown after the passing of this Bill could they prevent surface overcrowding. Surface crowding they would have to a great extent in a few years time. Instead of 72,000 per square mile they would have 100,000 or more per square mile. A workman would have to live somewhere near his work. If he walked a long distance he was tired when he got to his work, and he did not like to make a long tramp home after his day's work was over. This had the effect of overcrowding some districts in the colony. In order to prevent that sort of thing the real remedy lay in opening out the east and west ends of the town at present unoccupied and connecting them by means of a tramway to be subsidised by Government, the charge only to be nominal to enable the labouring population to make use of the tramways. Then again, opposite Hongkong, along the sea shore, there were an enormous number of building plots which could be made use of if there was a decent service of ferry boats. Sometimes they had to wait half an hour or an hour for the Chinese ferry boat before they could cross, and as regarded the English Company their charge was too excessive for the labouring Chinese to make use of their ferry. If they had lines of ferry boats subsidised by Government, a nominal charge being made, it seemed to him that the Chinese labouring classes would be able to occupy the cheap land on the other side. So far as the subsidy was concerned, he thought the Government would easily recover all they spent in increased land sales and increased taxes. He thought if the Government's attention was drawn to this matter and immediate action taken, in a very few years the Chinese would be spread out either to the east end or to the west end or on to the opposite shore, and overcrowding would be materially diminished.

With regard to cubicles, a man earning \$6 or \$8 a month had to pay about \$2 or more a month as rent for his cubicle for himself and family. That was one-third of his wages, and left him so much less for food and clothing. He could either pay for a good room to live in and stint himself and family as regarded food and clothing, or he could have better food and clothing and live in a small space. As to the plague returns referred to by His Excellency the Governor at the previous Council meeting, he could see that it was not only insanitary dwellings which caused the plague. It was his firm opinion that insufficiency of food and clothing reduced a man's constitution to such a state that he was unable to withstand the attacks of disease. They might place a Chinese anywhere and give him a big hong to live in—a palace at the Peak if they liked—but if he had insufficient food and clothing he would take the plague just the same as a Chinaman much worse housed, and this had been amply proved by cases of plague which had occurred at the Peak. A man's constitution was weakened by bad and insufficient food and clothing. When they saw during the summer months and during the autumn a large number of coolies lying out in the street at night they could not wonder at their being afflicted with dysentery, cholera, or anything else. They lay on the ground exposed to the night air and dew, and it was enough to give anyone rheumatism and other ailments. If plague or anything else was going about at the time they were sure to catch it. It had been stated that the women and children were more often affected by the

plague than the men, and this was sometimes put down to the fact that the men went out into the open air more often than the women. That might have something to do with it, but his firm opinion was that it was because the women had less to eat than the men. It was the custom for them to reserve the best for the men and be content with very little themselves. A working man might have fresh meat once or twice or three times a week, whereas the woman in the house would have to be content with meat once a week or none at all, and have to exist on vegetables or salt fish. That was, to his mind, the reason why more women caught the plague than men. He was fully convinced that if they were ever to send plague from their midst it would not be by ventilation only, but chiefly by enabling the Chinese to get cheap lodgings. As long as they had such a large population living in the city of Victoria it was impossible for them by any single measure they might pass to rid the colony of plague. Instead of passing any drastic measure like the one proposed and spending money every year in combatting the plague they might spend public money in opening out new sites and providing cheap and easy means of access to them, and then if they spread the population throughout the colony they would find that plague would finally leave them.

The Hon. WEI A YUK said he endorsed all that the Hon. Dr. HO KAI had said.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR said he had very great difficulty himself on this question of overcrowding. He knew that the popular opinion was that overcrowding and the height of houses were at the bottom of this visitation of plague, and it had frequently appeared to his mind that if it was satisfactorily proved to that Council that the cause of the epidemics of plague was overcrowding the simplest way of making a beginning to remedy the evil would be to enlarge the cubicles. But in saying that he was by no means certain that the evil could be remedied in this way. Statistics did not bear out the general assumption that the sanitary state of the town was due to surface overcrowding, or that the mortality from plague followed the rate of overcrowding in the town. He had been looking very carefully over all these things, and he might say that a short time after he came here he visited about 30 of the worst houses which could be shown to him by the Medical Officer of Health. It was perfectly clear to his mind that the ground floors of some of these houses were utterly unfit for human habitation, because they could not see at all without a lamp. The cubicles in them were absolutely dark, and it was quite clear to him that people should not be allowed to live in such places. On going through the houses, which he did from roof to cellar, he confessed he was struck by their cleanliness. He did not find the state of filth which he was led to expect to find. On the contrary, he found the houses quite as clean as the same class of houses in London. The cubicles were very small, and there were a large number of people living in them, but when one came to look into the question he found that the instances of plague did not follow the rate of population at all. He would have expected to find, if overcrowding had been the cause of the insanitary state of the town, that the death rate would have gradually increased as the population of the town increased. They knew that the population of Hongkong was very much greater than it was in 1878, but he found that the death rate in that year was 30.35 whilst it was but 22.50 last year. Of course there had been sanitary improvements since 1878, but still the fact remained that before these improvements were made or taken in hand the death rate had not increased at all but had decreased though the population was increasing. As to surface overcrowding, they would find if they took the population in the different districts that the cases of plague were not in proportion to the population. This fact shook one's faith in the statement that it was overcrowding which had brought about the present state of affairs. Touching on the question of increasing the size of the cubicles, His Excellency said that, as the Hon. Dr. HO KAI had said, increasing the size of cubicles must inevitably mean an increase in the rent and naturally an increase in wages. He requested the

Council to let this matter stand over at the previous Council meeting so that honourable members might have an opportunity of considering it. It was for the Council to say whether they thought the size of the cubicles should be increased or not. He had a strong opinion upon the matter himself. The amendment of the Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police was that "eight feet by eight feet" be substituted for "64 feet square."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS thought there was something in what the Hon. Dr. HO KAI had advanced. Eight feet by eight feet was a very rigid measurement to lay down and might not suit all houses. He proposed that the sub-section should read as follows:—"No cubicle used for sleeping purposes shall have a less floor area than 64 square feet or a less length or width than seven feet."

On this being put to the Council, it was carried, the Hon. Dr. HO KAI being the only dissentient.

Clause 5, which deals with mezzanine floors or cocklofts, was next considered, and was passed with only a small alteration.

On clause 6, which deals with the height of buildings, being reached.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD suggested that in the line "No building erected on land acquired from the Crown" the word "domestic" should be inserted before building, on the ground that it might be unfair to apply this provision to a godown.

His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR said he took it that the object of this clause was to secure from interference the light of the buildings on the opposite side of the plot on which the high building was to be erected. Therefore it did not matter whether that building was a godown or a domestic house, because it would keep out the light from the building opposite just the same. He found from the report that of the plague infected houses during the last epidemic 9.45 per cent. were two-storey houses, 9.80 three storey houses, and 8.6 four-storey houses. He found that the cases per 100 houses in the different districts were 102.6 per cent. in two-storey houses, 103.4 in three storey houses, and 107.7/10 in four-storey houses, so that they saw when they came to look into it that there was not that tremendous preponderance of plague cases in high houses which they had been led to expect.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—How many four-storey houses were there?

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—only 78.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL observed that there were many cubicles on the first floor.

His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—The proportion of cubicles on the first floor is somewhat great, but we have settled the cubicle question.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I find that in districts Nos. 1 to 19 there were 1,087 cubicles on the first floor.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—In all the houses infected there were 378 cases on the ground floor, 940 on the first floor, 359 on the second, and 28 on the third. As far as one can see, the majority of cases took place on the first and ground floors, taking into consideration the customs of the Chinese I should think it probable the cases found in the streets would be cases from the ground floor and not from the top floor.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I would propose with regard to the first paragraph of clause 6—which reads, "No building erected on land acquired from the Crown after the passing of this Ordinance shall exceed in height one and half times the width of the street upon which such building fronts"—the words "on land acquired from the Crown" be deleted, and the following words added after "fronts":—"Unless such building is provided, throughout its entire depth, with a lane along one of its lateral sides, of a width of at least one fourth of the height of such building; a window or windows having a total area clear of the window frames of at least one tenth of the floor area of each room shall be provided opening into such lane in addition to the window area required by section 8 (a) of Ordinance No. 15 of 1894." In connection with this suggestion I wrote to the honourable the Attorney-General on the subject some days ago giving my reasons in support. I should like my letter to be read.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I think that is not necessary. No doubt every member has read it because a copy of it appeared in the public press. I have no doubt we all read it; I did I know.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Has the hon. member considered the expense?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said he certainly thought that the Government, now they were beginning to deal with this question, of surface crowding, should do as had been done elsewhere and limit the height of buildings. The question of compensation was one which could be grappled with and would be an economy in the end. It was all important that Hongkong should be maintained a clean port.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR said that if they were satisfied that it was necessary that the street should be widened and that plague was the result of the narrowness of the streets they would have to go a step further and face a much larger question of expense. If they could prevent a recurrence of plague it would be worth any expense to the colony, but if they spent some ten million dollars without effect they would find themselves in rather a difficult position. The aggregate value of property in Victoria was about \$40,000,000 and if the provisions of this Bill were to apply, it was stated that about three-fifths of the property would be affected.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said that the clause as it now stood did not touch any property owned in Hongkong, but it would effect the sale of land in Taipingshan. They had sold all the land in the city almost except a few acres. The ground on the Praya Reclamation was already in private hands, and as they reclaimed land it went over to private hands, so that although the Government would be paid a lower price for land not yet sold if the law was altered as was proposed the change would be extremely slow. When a house was pulled down or reconstructed—which did not happen very often—the street on which it faced would not be widened, but would remain a 10 or 15 feet street, and the owner instead of rebuilding his house three storeys high would only be able to build a smaller house, and it seemed to him he would have a claim for compensation against the Government. The man bought the land years ago at a certain price, having calculated what return he would get, and if they altered this clause as proposed by the honourable member opposite he would find his land of very much less value. He quite agreed that if they had to improve the town it would be on the line of resuming property as they had done in Taipingshan, but he thought the time had not come yet for touching that question.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (to the Hon. T. H. Whitehead)—What do you say to that?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I do not press the suggestion.

The clause was passed as it stood.

With regard to clause 7 the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed an amendment to sub-section a providing for a window overlooking the open space in the rear of a building, remarking that it was no use having such open space unless they provided some window to open out into that open space.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI suggested that they should be allowed time to consider the amendment.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Are there any other suggestions?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I propose to add to sub-section b the words "If the entire depth from frontage to frontage exceeds 50 feet."

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—These two amendments require a little consideration so we will let this clause stand over. The amendments can be handed in to the clerk and then members will have the opportunity of thinking them out and making suggestions at the next meeting of the Council.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—At the moment it would be impossible to say whether they would be possible or not.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL mentioned one or two other amendments which he proposed bringing forward in the clause.

Clause 8 was also held over.

A small alteration was made in Clause 9, the words, "May if the Director of Public Work

thinks fit be," being inserted after the words "and" and before the word "provided" in the third line. The clause deals with the maintenance and lighting of private back streets.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS asked the Acting Attorney-General if there was anything in the Bill to prevent the owner of a private street or lane building over it in order to evade this clause entirely. He found that there was nothing in the Ordinance to prevent him from doing it. A bye-law had been passed by the Sanitary Board with the view of meeting such cases, under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, but was held to be *ultra vires*. It seemed to him, therefore, that it should really be provided for in the Ordinance. There were many private lanes in the city, and a man wishing to avoid all this trouble might cover over his lane.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE said such a case had actually occurred. There was a block of property in Wanchai with a lane down the back, and this lane was now completely covered. The Sanitary Board tried to stop it under a bye-law but they did not succeed.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Were there no windows opening on the lane?

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—He has got what he pleases to call backyards, and this complies with the Ordinance.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—What I suggest is that it be provided that all existing lights be left as they are.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—The question of compensation would come in.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Certainly.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—If this Bill is passed I do not think a similar case would be likely to occur again as an owner in re-building a block of houses would be tempted to economise space by putting in a lane instead of backyards.

The remaining clauses 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 were passed as they stood without comment.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Clauses 7 and 8 will stand over till our next meeting, and I shall be glad if honourable members who have the amendments—the Hon. Attorney-General and the Hon. T. H. Whitehead—will let the clerk have them so that members may consider them fully.

The Council then resumed.

THE RATING BILL.

The Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1888, was read a third time and passed.

The Council adjourned until Monday week.

SUPREME COURT.

28th October.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE HUNGKOM MURDER CASE.—THE ACCUSED DISCHARGED.

Pung Pun, carpenter, Market Street, Hungkong, and Li Ki, cook, Bulkeley Street, Hungkong, were charged with the wilful murder of Pun Fuk, sawyer, at Hungkong, on the 22nd August. They pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. W. T. Marlow, H. Haynes, T. P. Cochrane, H. E. Mackenzie, E. H. Ray, M. von Obreovsky, and G. A. Friesland.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. Bowley (Acting Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) for the defence.

The hearing commenced on Monday last. The evidence and the addresses of Counsel were concluded by Friday evening.

On Saturday morning His Lordship summed up, concluding at about five minutes to one.

In the course of his address His Lordship said—The accused persons, Pung Pun and Li Ki, are charged with the wilful murder of one Pun Fuk, at Hongkong in this colony, on 22nd August last. The case for the prosecution briefly amounts to this, viz., that the deceased man, walking with a friend, met the 1st prisoner (Pung Pun) in Bulkeley

Street and asked him for some money. It does not appear for what the money was asked. The first prisoner replied "I have no money to give you; Let us fight and then I will give it you." The deceased man thereupon pushed the first prisoner, not violently, with his hand, and asked why he refused to pay. The first prisoner replied by striking the deceased with his fist, whereupon the deceased ran away. The first prisoner then chased after him, and when near Temple Street stabbed the deceased with a chisel, inflicting a terrible wound on his thigh, from which wound the deceased died, fifteen days afterwards, in the Civil Hospital, to which he was carried in an ambulance the day he was wounded.

As regards the second prisoner (Li Ki) the case against him is that he struck the deceased with a hammer on the right side of his back, almost at the same time as or immediately before, the blow inflicted by the chisel. It is clear from the medical evidence that the blow with the hammer in no way contributed to the death of the deceased. It is not alleged that the second prisoner was present at the conversation as to the money, nor has any special reason been suggested why he should have joined in the attack on the deceased. I am not at present discussing the question how far the charge against each of the prisoners, respectively, is proved. At this point I will tell you what the law is, so far as it is applicable to this charge.

Murder is unlawful homicide with malice aforethought. Manslaughter is unlawful homicide without malice aforethought. Now as regards provocation, it is laid down correctly in Archbold's Criminal Pleading as follows "No provocation whatever can render homicide justifiable or even excusable; the least it can amount to is manslaughter. If a man kill another suddenly without any, or indeed without a considerable provocation, the law implies malice and the homicide is murder, but if the provocation were great and such as must have greatly excited him, the killing is manslaughter only."

If, for instance, a man had a chisel in his hand and while working at his bench receives a violent blow and turns round and stabs his assailant with the chisel in the heat of temper caused by the blow and the assailant unfortunately dies from that blow, this might not improperly be held to amount only to manslaughter; but if a man, receiving a slight push, retaliates by striking his assailant violently with his fist and the assailant runs away, then undoubtedly, if the man pursued his retreating assailant and stabbed him to death with a chisel while the assailant was unarmed and not threatening further violence, such an act would be murder. The revenge is not proportionate to the provocation, and the law would imply malice.

Now, as regards the alleged act of the second prisoner, as the blow, alleged to have been inflicted by him with the hammer, in no way contributed to the death, the second prisoner would be entitled upon this indictment to be acquitted unless you are satisfied by the evidence that he was acting in concert with the first prisoner. If the attack was made by the two, together, with the intention of killing the deceased or of inflicting grievous bodily harm, and the first prisoner was found guilty of murder, then the man who struck with the hammer would be guilty of murder also, because, if two persons attack a man in concert and, armed with deadly weapons, both strike him and one of them kills him, the other is responsible for the acts of the actual murderer.

Such I take to be the law applicable to this case. It is simple and in accordance with common sense. But the real difficulty in this case is to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the facts of the case. You are the judges of those facts, and it is my duty to tell you with regard to each of the prisoners, taking their cases separately, that unless you are satisfied of their guilt beyond reasonable doubt, it will be your duty to acquit them. I may also remind you that by the law of this colony where "any person is arraigned for any offence visited by the law with capital punishment, then and in such case the jury must be unanimous in their verdict of guilty or not guilty; but if a majority consisting of not less than five jurors should find such person guilty of a less crime than the capital one, then the finding of such majority shall be the verdict and sentence shall follow."

accordingly." Let us now consider the somewhat voluminous evidence of the thirty witnesses who have been called in this case and then it will be for you to consider what facts you find proved and to give your verdict accordingly.

His Lordship then went through the evidence.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after an absence of five minutes they returned with a verdict of not guilty.

The prisoners were accordingly discharged.

30th October.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

IN THE MATTER OF THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES (MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION) ORDINANCE, 1890.

This was a petition presented to the Court to confirm a special resolution of the Company, duly passed and confirmed at extraordinary meetings held on the 3rd July last and the 19th July last, altering the form of the Company's constitution by substituting a memorandum of association and articles of association for the Company's deed of settlement dated the 29th August, 1863, and for all regulations of the Company subsequently made and now in force.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, appeared in support of the petition, no one appearing to oppose it.

His Lordship delivered the following judgment:—This is a petition by the Dock Company, under Ordinance 25 of 1890, asking the confirmation by this Court of a special resolution of the Company, referred to in paragraph 11 of the petition. The object of the petition is to enable the Company to substitute a memorandum and articles of association for the old deed of settlement, which does not quite suit the present requirements of the Company. The Dock Company appears to have prospered and to be in a flourishing condition and consequently to have need of a somewhat broader constitution than that conferred by the original deed of settlement. Before confirming an alteration of this kind the Court is required by the Ordinance to see that certain preliminary conditions have been complied with by the petitioners, to see that proper notice of the application has been given to the various classes of people whose interests might be affected by the alteration proposed. Mr. Pollock, who appeared in support of the petition, has satisfied me that the necessary advertisements have been issued and proper notices given; and the fact that no one appears here to oppose the petition strengthens me in the opinion I have formed from a perusal of the proposed memorandum and articles of association, as well as of the old deed of settlement, that the alteration in the constitution of this company ought to be sanctioned. Accordingly I confirm the special resolution and sanction the proposed substitution of a memorandum and articles of association for the deed of settlement. In the course of the proceedings the question of whether an alteration ought to be made in the name of the company was mentioned. I was informed that the memorandum of association practically makes no alteration in the local limits of the possible sphere of the company's operations. They could carry on business in Hongkong and elsewhere before, and can do so, if they please, in the future under the new constitution. If the new constitution had restricted the authorized area of the Company's operations so that they could no longer carry on business at Whampoa, even if they desired to do so, then, it appears to me, it would be proper to alter the name of the company by omitting the words "and Whampoa" and to make that alteration one of the conditions referred to in sub-section (3) of the first section of the Ordinance. The cases of "In re Foreign and Colonial Government Trust Company" (Law Reports, 1891, 2 Chancery Division, p. 395) and "In re Indian Mechanical Gold Extracting Company" (Law Reports 1891, 3

Chancery Division p. 538) show that it is proper to impose such a condition when the alteration makes a name which was appropriate before no longer appropriate. But, in the present case, especially as alterations in the names of companies are apt to create unforeseen difficulties, I do not consider it necessary for me to impose any such condition. I accordingly confirm the alteration proposed and set forth in the petition. A formal order may be drawn up in accordance with the Judgment.

1st November.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE (THE HON. W. M. GOODMAN) AND THE PUISNE JUDGE (MR. JUSTICE WISE).

NG YUK (APPELLANT) v. LIU YEE (RESPONDENT.)

Mr. E. S. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Bruton) appeared for the appellant.

In reply to the Acting Chief Justice, respondent said she had no further evidence to call.

Mr. Sharp said he moved for leave to appeal by way of rehearing against the decision of Mr. Gompertz, Acting Police Magistrate, given on the 9th day of October, whereby appellant was convicted on the charge for that he feloniously did steal one gold ring of the value of \$20, the property of complainant, on the 8th October, and was sentenced to a term of one month's imprisonment with hard labour on the ground (1) that there was not sufficient evidence to warrant the said conviction in fact and (2) that the said conviction was against the weight of evidence. He made this application under the Magistrates Ordinance No. 10 of 1890. He applied also that, if their Lordships saw fit to order the rehearing, the evidence be taken *de novo*, and that the depositions be not put in.

The Acting Chief Justice said he did not think they need trouble Mr. Sharp any further. Although he had only shortly opened, his learned brother and himself had read the whole of the evidence very carefully through, and had come to the conclusion that although the case was a very suspicious one the evidence was not satisfactory to the court and they thought the conviction should not be upheld. No doubt by the Magistrates Ordinance the court might dismiss the appeal or grant a rehearing, subject to such terms as it might think fit, but as the respondent was in court and said she had no further evidence it would be a pure waste of time for that evidence to be recapitulated there. As there was no fresh evidence forthcoming on the rehearing the result would be the same. The court thought it unnecessary, therefore, to require a re-hearing, and they thought the appeal should be allowed and the decision of the Magistrate reversed. They did not attach any blame to the Magistrate. The case was one no doubt of grave suspicion and one which different persons might have different views of, but they thought the benefit of the doubt should be given to the prisoner.

The appeal was accordingly allowed without costs.

THE SHAU CH' TONG (APPELLANTS) v. THE HING CHEONG (RESPONDENTS).

In this case the Hon. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Bowley) appeared for appellants, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Mr. Ewens) for respondents, the latter being the plaintiffs in the original case.

Mr. Pollock said their Lordships would remember that they had the case before them on the 12th April this year, when it was adjourned *sine die*.

The Acting Chief Justice said that this was the position as he understood it. There was a debt of \$10,000 due from defendant to plaintiffs, or rather \$16,000 was sued for, and judgment was obtained for that sum against defendants. That judgment stood and there was no appeal from it. Then the question came, how are plaintiffs to be paid? The Shau Cho Tong were put in as garnissees and plaintiffs alleged that the Shau Cho Tong owed the sum of \$5,000 to defendant. It was admitted by the Shau Cho Tong that at one time they borrowed \$10,000 from defendant, but it was contended that it had been repaid—\$5,000 by actual cash and as

regarded the other \$5,000 it had been paid to wipe off a debt due from defendant to another person. If defendant had sued the garnissees for the \$5,000 the garnissees would have had a complete answer by saying, "I owed you \$5,000, but I have paid \$5,000 at your request for you, and therefore wiped off the debt."

Mr. Slade—In other words, he said I admit the debt, but I have a complete answer because I have a set-off. It is for him to prove his set-off.

The Court held that it was for Mr. Slade to prove his case. He accordingly called the garnishee and other witnesses, but their evidence not being favourable he decided to discontinue his case.

The court held that under section 82 subsection 18 of the code there existed no property in the hands of the garnishee subject to attachment under the writ and no debt due from the garnishee to defendant. The appeal was therefore, allowed.

2nd November.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HON. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

RE JOHN MCIVER.

Bankrupt applied for his discharge under section 27 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1897.

His Lordship said—The bankrupt carried on the business of a chemist and druggist at the Pharmacy, Queen's Road Central, and filed his petition in bankruptcy on 15th February last. The immediate necessity for this petition was a writ issued by his late partner, from whom the debtor purchased the business, to enforce payment of the balance of the purchase money which had remained unpaid since 1897. A receiving order was made on 20th February, 1899, and the debtor was adjudicated bankrupt on 18th April last. His public examination was concluded on the 7th September last, and he now applies for his discharge. It appears, from the report of the Official Receiver, that the total dividends will not amount to more than 30 per cent. and that the only matter with regard to which any blame can be attached to the bankrupt is his omission to take stock at regular and proper intervals, so as to know his position as a business man. There is no imputation of any fraud or extravagant living. He started the business with insufficient capital and with borrowed money, which the profits have not enabled him to repay. In all the circumstances, the Court grants an order of discharge but suspends its operation for a term of six months from this date.

RE CHAN A MAN.

Chan A Man (alias Chan Chap Shan), carrying on business as Kang On Wo, also applied for his discharge.

His Lordship said—This is also an application for the discharge of the bankrupt, who formerly carried on business as a merchant exporting rice and sugar to Japan, importing, through his local agents there, general merchandise. His Hongkong office was in Bonham Strand West. He filed his petition on 7th April, 1899, in consequence of writs being served upon him by rice and sugar merchants. The adjudication in bankruptcy was on 7th September last, and his public examination was concluded the same day. The dividend is not likely to amount to more than five or six per cent. It appears, from the report of the Official Receiver that the bankruptcy is to be attributed solely to losses in business operations amounting to \$54,000 owing to the sudden fall in the price of rice in Japan in the early part of this year and at the end of last year. In other words, the bankruptcy may be attributed to business misfortunes. The books appear to have been accurately kept and the bankrupt appears to have rendered every assistance to the Official Receiver in the bankruptcy proceedings. In the circumstances, the Court grants a discharge, but on account of the smallness of the dividend, suspends the operation of the order as required by law. The period of suspension will be six months.

THE SANITARY BOARD AND THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL.

A special meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Monday at noon for the purpose of discussing certain matters in connection with the Insanitary Properties Bill. The President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

The PRESIDENT said that that meeting had been called to discuss the question as to whether the minimum size of cubicles recommended in the Insanitary Properties Bill should be increased or not. Sub-section *h* of section 4 of the Bill stated: "No cubicle used for sleeping purposes shall have less floor area than 64 square feet."

Dr. CLARK said he begged to move that the attention of the Government be directed to the fact that in the Board's report of June 9th, 1898, it was recommended that a distance of not less than six feet be permitted between the nearest cubicle and any window the area of which was included in calculating the required window area. He had been discussing this matter with one or two former members of the Board, and they expressed a strong opinion that it ought to be the width of the cubicle, that was, eight feet. He might also mention that in section 4, sub-section *h*, they should substitute eight feet by eight for 64 square feet, so as to avoid a double row of cubicles with a narrow passage between.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY said he must oppose the proposal, because he really thought that this Bill, which had been before them and before the public for nearly 18 months, had been sufficiently thrashed out, and with the exception of a verbal alteration—eight feet by eight instead of 64 square feet—he would advise that no change be made. It seemed to him that to increase the size of cubicles would entail a good deal of hardship upon many people. There must be many cases in which a man and his wife, without family, took a cubicle, and from what they had seen lately they paid quite as much rent as they could possibly afford to pay as wages ruled in Hongkong, and to make it impossible for them to get a place eight feet by eight, and insist upon their taking a place 10 or 12 by eight, was, he thought, inflicting a considerable hardship upon them, as there was not the slightest doubt landlords would charge rent for a cubicle according to the number of square feet contained in that cubicle. With regard to the other point which the Medical Officer of Health had brought forward, he thought four feet space from a window was enough, and if it was enough they should not insist upon six feet. It was pointed out by persons largely interested in property in Hongkong in discussing this Bill that four feet would be practically lost in the letting value of the room. However, the Bill as it now stood was practically accepted, and he believed there was every reason to expect it would pass in its present form through the Council without opposition. It they introduced a change now adding 50 per cent. to what was considered as lost space in a room an opposition might be raised to the Bill and might prevent its passing. For that reason he was opposed to any change being made in the Bill as it now stood except the merely verbal change of substituting eight by eight for 64 square feet.

On the motion being put to the vote it was carried with one (Mr. Ormsby) dissentient.

The VICE-PRESIDENT proposed that the opportunity be taken of pointing out to the Government that section 9 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, as regarded the cubicle space and floor space required for persons occupying cubicles, provided for adults only, and made no provision for any cubicle or floor space for children.

Dr. CLARK seconded, and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

It is understood, says the *Straits Times*, that Sandakan will be visited by Lord Brassey in January next.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

SICK SPANISH PRISONERS EXPECT EARLY RELEASE.

THE AUTHORITIES SIT DOWN ON MANILA PAPERS.

Manila, 27th October.

Up to this week it has been customary for lively Manila newspapers to publish, two or three days in advance, full and complete details of all movements planned either by the army or navy. If troops were concentrated at any point or ammunition and supplies stored up in any particular town the local papers were sure to know of it, print long accounts of the troops, infantry, cavalry, or artillery, the number of horses, and the amount and character of the baggage, so that by the mere reading of Manila papers the insurgent leaders kept themselves posted on the exact location of every soldier, horse, and gun in the island.

At last the authorities have put a stop to these extraordinary liberties, by prohibiting the publication of any news showing, directly or indirectly, the arrival, departure, transfer, or any movement of any troops. A delegation of editors called on the chief of staff and learned that they might make use of battles and other completed movements, but all affairs concerning the moving of organizations or supplies must not be mentioned.

The order meets with general approval throughout the army, and the civilian population as well, as everyone realized that the papers were furnishing valuable and convenient information to the enemy.

NO MORE COMMISSIONS.

A change has taken place in the method of negotiating with the Filipinos. Since Alejandro's theatrical visit and its stirring results no more insurgent officers have been permitted to visit Manila. The question of the Spanish prisoners is again being agitated and this time the representatives of Spain, who are now in Tarlac, seem to be meeting with a little success, as it is currently believed that the sick prisoners will soon be liberated. The others will remain. Aguinaldo requested that a commission of prominent officers be allowed to accompany these returning Spaniards to Manila, where another conference could be arranged; but this was refused, and it is very likely that if any conferences are to take place in the future they will be conducted somewhere near the frontier, and be presided over by the nearest General-in-command. It is to be hoped that Manila will see no more bright insurgent uniforms until the war is ended, and that eager crowds of admiring natives can watch the arriving trains without any opportunity for celebration.

The Spanish population is becoming enthusiastic over the prospect of the return of the unfortunate prisoners. As a matter of fact the negotiations concern only such of the prisoners as are sick; but this is believed to include a large number. Many of these have been in the hands of the insurgents twelve and thirteen months, and they are not only men, but women and children.

General Otis has assured the Spaniards through the insurgent officers that the prisoners will be received with every kindness and that no means will be spared to have them returned to their own country as comfortably and quickly as possible.

THE COST OF SALARIES, PENSIONS, ETC.

The following statement of Salaries, Pensions, and Exchange Compensation, for the years 1895-1898, has been laid before the Legislative Council:

1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.
2/1 st	2/2 nd	1/11 th	1/10 th
Salaries (including allowances) 734,115.73	734,617.41	767,192.2	749,668.71
Pensions 112,776.9	118,051.71	140,84.92	161,210.26
Exchange Compensation 119,408.85	70,369.90	91,518.92	101,844.10
896,301.55	935,012.02	1,002,535.35	1,08,732.16

THE COLONY'S MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

A statement of military expenditure and contribution for barrack services and defence works for the years 1889-1898 was laid before the last meeting of the Legislative Council. The contribution for barrack services appears first in 1896 and that for defence works in 1898. The figures are as follows:

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.	
1889	\$131,637.80
1890	121,897.97
1891	*381,316.68
1892	267,182.43
1893	297,873.90
1894	\$371,647.51
1895	353,242.05
1896	469,679.52
1897	416,541.73
1898	448,606.19

* The military contribution was doubled from 1st January, 1890, and the arrears for 1890 were paid in 1891.

CONTRIBUTION FOR BARRACK SERVICES.

1896	\$40,000.00
1897	43,837.14
1898	40,000.00

CONTRIBUTION FOR DEFENCE WORKS.

1898	\$14,700.00
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THE POST OFFICE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statement of revenue and expenditure of the Post Office for the years 1889-1898 has been laid before the Legislative Council:

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1889	\$142,309.11	\$163,127.26
1890	149,454.98	115,398.13
1891	142,770.03	140,165.01
1892	157,699.03	154,248.30
1893	167,596.77	153,286.96
1894	192,172.42	183,352.15
1895	244,449.71	194,240.27
1896	245,280.83	188,281.17
1897	268,616.49	207,080.29
1898	337,179.99	241,561.52
Total	2,046,528.86	1,740,741.09

THE STRANDING OF THE "SHANTUNG."

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.—CAPTAIN FRAMPTON EXONERATED.

A marine court of enquiry was held at the Harbour Office on Thursday morning for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances connected with the stranding of the British steamship *Shantung*, of which Mr. H. C. D. Frampton was master and commander.

The court was constituted as follows:—Commander R. M. Rumsey, R.N., Stipendiary Magistrate; Staff-Commander R. J. Rogers, R.N., of H.M.S. *Tamar*; Captain J. H. Ringer, of the *Coptic*; Captain P. H. Rolfe, of the *Yuensang*; and Captain J. A. Morris, of the *Chow Tai*.

The letter of Captain Frampton asking for an enquiry was read.

The warrant constituting the Court was read.

Captain Frampton said he was formerly master of the *Shantung* but was not in command now. He held a master's certificate dated 31st October, 1885, issued at Plymouth. He had been in the *Shantung* since 1892, and had been Captain the whole of the time with the exception of six months when he went home. The *Shantung* was owned by Butterfield and Swire. They sailed from Samarang on the 5th July on a voyage to Hongkong with a full cargo of sugar. The draught of the ship was 24 feet 6 in. aft and 21 feet forward. There was a full complement of crew and the ship was properly found. On the 8th July he made up his mind to coast down the Island of Seraia, the weather being fine. He was about 24 miles off the coast then. His object was to find out whether there was a wreck there, as he had reason to suppose there was. He therefore gave instructions to the second officer to get out the chart, and having found from the chart that there was deep water close to the reef and that there was no reason to suppose there was any danger of rocks he made for the coast. He took charge of the deck himself after one o'clock, Seraia Island being then abeam south 79° east, and the estimated distance about three-quarters of a mile. On approaching the land he observed an

object which appeared to be a wreck on the beach, and also a white boat which appeared to be a European boat. To make certain there was no one there requiring assistance he set the course back to run parallel to the land, the chart giving plenty of water. At 2.30 p.m. the ship struck on a rock or reef. They were going at full speed at the time. He was afraid she had struck a pinnacle, so he did not stop on the instant, but at 2.32 p.m. he stopped the engines and the vessel came over and he went astern to get her away. During this period he took a bearing of the 864 feet hill, which bore north 70 east true, ordering the second officer to take the bearing of the south point of the Island, which he did and reported south 45 east true, the ship's head being north at the time. The wells were sounded without delay by the chief officer and third officer. They found the ship was making water very rapidly in the forehold and No. 2 hold and the chief engineer reported that the water was rising in the engine room. He accordingly deemed it prudent to beach the ship to save life and property, and he did so. After beaching he had to keep the engines going slow ahead to keep the bilge injection at work. All boats were swung and every precaution taken to save life. It was about 3.40 p.m. when the ship was beached. At 6.30 p.m. he despatched the second officer in the life-boat cutter with one Malay quarter-master and three Chinese sailors to Sarawak. The vessel lay moderately quiet for a time but bumped heavily in the night. The wells were sounded during the night and it was found that the water was not rising. The bilge injection was kept going. At daylight the next morning he sent a boat ashore to find a landing place on the beach. The ship gradually drove closer on the shore. At 4 p.m. the company's steamer *Huapeh* have in sight and in response to signals stopped. He went on board and requested the captain to go to Singapore for assistance. At 5.30 p.m. the *Huapeh* left for Singapore. The bilge injection was kept going all the night and the engineers were kept at work to try and stop the leak. At 5.30 a.m. on the 10th he ran a six inch rope ashore from the starboard quarter and made it fast to a tree to keep the stern of the vessel from going into deep water. Not thinking that sufficient he laid out a stream anchor in the same quarter with a wire rope attached. He also laid out a kedge anchor on the starboard bow with a wire rope attached. The engineers found the hole in the engine-room and caulked it. During the night the weather was moderately fine, but the ship bumped occasionally. On the following morning, July 11th, he laid out No. 2 stream anchor to keep the ship from driving further on to the beach, and opened a sluice to drain the water from No. 2 hold. At 5 p.m. the water gained from No. 2 hold into the engine-room and he shut the sluice again. At eight o'clock the next morning he again opened the sluice in No. 2 hold and then took the third officer with him to sound round the ship to see if it was possible to get her off. He did not take note of the soundings. After beaching the ship he sent the second officer to get the position of the rock, but he was not successful. He took a bearing from the ship—south 45 west true. At 6 a.m. on the 13th he went away with the third mate and buoyed out the channel. At 1 p.m. the ship was bumping heavily and he took some cargo from No. 1 and 2 holds. During the night the ship ranged about considerably and bumped heavily. At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 14th he sighted a steamer to the westward, she proving to be the *Mercury*. He subsequently sighted the *Huapeh*. They managed to get three "tonkangs" alongside which the *Huapeh* had brought down, and at 2.30 p.m. they began discharging sugar into the tonkangs. They filled the tonkangs with sugar, but they were unable to get away to the *Huapeh* owing to the weather. On July 15th the diver went down and reported he could find no damage on the port side forward on the bilge keel. At 6 o'clock in the forenoon on the 17th July, at high water they went astern and got the vessel off the reef into four fathoms and a half of water. The draught was 23 feet 7 in. aft, and 22 feet 6 inches forwards. Finding that the ship did not make more water he went out and anchored in 19 fathoms of water. The wrecking pumps were kept going the whole time. At 5.50 a.m.

on the 18th the steamer *Centaur* for Singapore came in sight, and he sent the chief officer to Singapore in her. On July the 19th the divers reported the ship seaworthy, and at 6.15 a.m. on July 22nd they started for Singapore, accompanied by the *Mercury* and the *Huapeh*, arriving on Monday, the 24th, two minutes past noon, being fast alongside at 1.15. The pumps were kept going as the ship lay alongside the wharf, and the rest of the cargo was taken on board the *Huapeh*.

The court having consulted for a few minutes, Captain Frampton was recalled, and in reply to questions he said soundings were taken about two minutes after the ship struck. He found seven and a half fathoms. They were at the least three-quarters of a mile from the shore.

James Gibbs, chief officer of the *Shantung* at the time of the casualty, said he was not on deck when the ship struck. He did not know that the Captain intended going in close to have a look at the shore of the island. He was on deck immediately after the ship struck. He sounded the well right away and found the ship making water. The captain consulted him as to beaching the ship and he agreed that it was necessary. After beaching everything was done in his opinion which was possible to stop the leak.

Frederick Harmes, who was second officer of the *Shantung* at the time of the casualty, said he was on the bridge when the Captain told him he intended going in close to the Island, as he thought there was a boat on the beach. He went and got the chart for the Captain. When passing the south point of the island he took a four point bearing, and it gave a distance of three-quarters of a mile. No soundings were taken till after the ship had struck. After striking the Captain remarked to him that there were 33 fathoms of water on the chart. No soundings were taken. They sounded the well and found the ship was sinking.

The President said the court would like to know why the enquiry was not held at Singapore.

Captain Frampton said he reported the matter to the Harbour Master at Singapore and asked him if an enquiry was necessary, and he said no. He also asked their agents if they would like to have an enquiry and they said no—not unless the owners asked in Hongkong. They also told him that if the owners had wanted to have an enquiry they would have telegraphed down instructions. When he came to Hongkong his owners asked him about an enquiry, and he replied that he simply took the advice of their agents and did not ask for one.

The Chairman—Why did you leave the ship?

Captain Frampton—Because they wrote down and said that owing to my having got the ship ashore they considered I was in fault and requested me to hand over the command to another captain.

The Chairman—Did they suggest you should have an enquiry?

Captain Frampton—No, they did not suggest anything, but they said that if I had an enquiry and I could clear myself it would be a point in my favour, meaning, I suppose, that they would reinstate me if I came out all right or do something in my favour. They made no definite promise at all.

In their finding the court say:—

"The Court is of opinion that with the exception of omitting to use the lead in close proximity to land, the ship was navigated by the master in a seamanlike and proper manner, but as this omission does not appear to have contributed to the casualty, and as in the subsequent proceedings commendable energy was displayed, the court do not consider it necessary to deal with the master's certificate."

A New York contemporary dated August 29th makes the following reference to the late Spanish Consul in Hongkong:—New York, 29th August.—Senor José de Navarro y Ayala, the new appointed Consul-General of Spain to this country, has arrived in this city. While Consul at Hongkong reports were circulated that Navarro was supplying Aguinaldo with arms and ammunition. When asked about the reports, Navarro said: "The stories were untrue. In fact United States Consul-General Wildman was one of my best friends and the first to congratulate me on my appointment to this country."

THE CAPTURE OF BRITISH TROOPS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

LIEUT. HOLMES AMONG THE PRISONERS.

Among the officers of the Irish Fusiliers captured by the Boers is Lieutenant Holmes, son of Mr. H. J. Holmes, solicitor, of this colony, who has been connected with the regiment about four years. He was first stationed at Allahabad. From there he went to Burmah and then about 12 months ago the regiment was ordered to Alexandria, where it was stationed when ordered to proceed to Natal. It only reached Natal a fortnight ago.

Mr. Holmes has received a telegram from the War Department at home informing him of his son's fate.

COLLISION NEAR CAPSUIMOO.

THE "TUNGKONG" BEACHED.

The river steamer *Tungkong*, owned by Messrs. Tung Kee and Co., while on the voyage down from Canton, collided on Wednesday morning, about four o'clock, with the German steamer *Sourabaya*, from Newchwang for Canton, which was proceeding up the river. The *Tungkong* received damage about her bows, and was beached near Capsuimoon to save her from sinking. When news of the disaster was received in Hongkong launches were sent out to bring in the *Tungkong*'s passengers.

The *Sourabaya* proceeded on her voyage.

PIRACY IN CANTON WATERS.

The following list of recent piracies has been supplied to us by a Canton correspondent:—

On the 18th Oct. four junks named respectively *Ko Chang*, *Yan Wo*, *Cheong Kee*, and *Lee Kai* were attacked and robbed at Shekmatow, in the Kongchuiun district.

On the 20th Oct. a passage boat on the way from Canton to Chuklew, in the Punyu district, was attacked and robbed.

On the 22nd Oct. a junk laden with silk piece goods between Pingchow and Shoutak was attacked by some forty or fifty pirates who came alongside in snake boats, and the valuable cargo was stolen.

On the same day the steam-launch *City of Whampoa*, while on a voyage from Sunchow, near Whampoa, to Canton was also attacked. A European Customs officer was on board who offered some resistance, and he was severely wounded.

The proprietor of a jeweller's shop in Taisun Street, Canton, was accompanying the remains of his recently deceased wife to his native place for burial, the journey being made by boat. The pirates boarded the boat and threatened to throw the coffin overboard if the husband did not give up all the money he had. After some bargaining he gave them Tls. 80, which the pirates accepted, and they then lighted candles and joss-sticks, knelt before the coffin, and chin-chinned it, thanking it for their good luck. They then left in their snake boats.

On the 23rd a junk proceeding from Canton to Tayuin was attacked near Loahkong. In this case the crew were able to beat off the pirates, but in the fight one of the crew was killed and several were wounded.

Another boat proceeding from Kunyew, in the Namhoi district, to Canton was attacked and looted at Pakkong on the same day as the last case.

KANG YU-WEI IN HONGKONG.

Kang Yu-wei arrived in Hongkong on Wednesday by the *Kawachi Maru*. He and his suite were in European dress. He is staying with a prominent member of the Chinese community.

Mr. Ho Tung informs us that Mr. Kang Yu-wei has moved to 16, Hollywood Road, where he intends to remain during his sojourn in Hongkong.

PRECAUTIONS AT SHANGHAI.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

Shanghai, 29th October, 9.46 p.m.

Kang Yu-wei being expected by the *Empress of India*, H.M.S. *Fame* and *Whiting* were sent to Woosung to prevent any violation of the flag being attempted.

THE LOSS OF THE "WHITE CLOUD."

PROCEEDINGS AT THE MAGISTRACY YESTERDAY.

At the Magistracy on the 27th October before Mr. Gomperts, Captain Raymond was charged that he "on the 8th day of Sept., 1899, then being master of the British steamship *White Cloud*, did knowingly take the said steamship to sea in such an unseaworthy state that the lives of the officers and crew on board the said steamship were likely to be thereby endangered, from the waters of the Colony, contrary to Ordinance 26 of 1891, section XI, subsection 12."

Mr. Bowley (Acting Crown Solicitor) appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Grist (Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defence.

Mr. Bowley said defendant was charged under section XI., Ordinance 26 of 1891, subsection 2, which said:—"Every Master of a British or Colonial ship who knowingly takes the same to sea in such unseaworthy state that the life of any person is likely to be thereby endangered shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, unless he proves that her going to sea in such unseaworthy state was, under the circumstances, reasonable and justifiable, and for the purpose of giving such proof he may give evidence in the same manner as any other witness." The section also provided, "A prosecution under this section shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Governor. A misdemeanour under this section shall not be punishable upon summary conviction." Mr. Bowley concluded by saying that he would first call Commander Rumsey.

Commander Rumsey said he was Harbour Master of Hongkong; also Registrar of Shipping, and Stipendiary Magistrate. He produced the register, from which it appeared that the *White Cloud* was a British ship and was built in 1875. Her original owners were the Hongkong and Macao Steamboat Company Limited. On the 2nd September the vessel changed hands under bill of sale dated August 30th.

Mr. Grist took a preliminary objection, suggesting that the first thing which should be done was to prove that the Governor had given his consent to the prosecution.

Commander Rumsey, continuing, said he received a document containing the Governor's signature saying that he consented to the prosecution.

Mr. Grist said the document should be put in. Commander Rumsey said he had not the document in his pocket.

Mr. Grist pressed his point contending that the document must be put in or else his client must be discharged.

Mr. Bowley had in his hand a document which showed that His Excellency had consented to the prosecution, but demurred to putting it in in the first instance. Subsequently, on the suggestion of His Worship, he entered the box, and said he had received instructions from the Governor, through the Colonial Secretary, to institute this prosecution. He produced the document, which showed that His Excellency had consented to the prosecution of Captain Raymond.

Commander Rumsey, continuing his evidence, said—The *White Cloud* had no passenger certificate on the 2nd September. The last declaration as to the surveying of the *White Cloud* by the Government Marine Surveyor was dated September 5th, 1893. A passenger certificate was issued on that declaration on the 18th September, 1893, and the certificate expired on the 12th September, 1894. The ship had not been surveyed by the Government Marine Surveyor since September, 1893. The boat was cleared for Manila on the 7th September. He presided over a Marine Court at which the circumstances connected with loss of the *White Cloud* were enquired into. Defendant did not attend at the court, though notice was issued. The finding of that court was gazetted in the *Government Gazette*. The document produced was the original finding of the court and was signed by all the members of the court.

In reply to Mr. Grist, witness said he did not know why defendant did not appear at the court of enquiry. He could not at the instant remember on whose application the court of

enquiry was held, as both the owner (Mr. Robinson) and Captain Raymond had asked verbally for one. Subsequently a request was sent in that there should be no enquiry, but he replied that the court having been constituted the enquiry would have to go on. Defendant came to his office after the enquiry and said he wished to offer an explanation as to his non-attendance, but witness declined to hear any. It appeared from the evidence that defendant was not in the colony at the time of the enquiry.

Antonio Guterres, Deputy Superintendent of the Mercantile Marine Office in this colony, said all ships' articles were prepared and signed in his presence. He produced the articles of the steamship *White Cloud*, signed on the 4th September last by defendant as Master and by the crew. He delivered the articles to the Master, who returned them to him after the voyage.

William Ramsey, superintendent engineer of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, and of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company, said he knew the *White Cloud*, which belonged to the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Company previous to August last. He had known her for 24 or 25 years. She was built at Hongkong. Formerly she ran between Hongkong and Macao and then between Macao and Canton. She had been on the latter run all the time—18 months—he had been superintendent engineer to the company. She was a wooden ship sheathed with copper. She had not been docked during the last 18 months. On the Saturday before the 24th July he examined the *White Cloud*, which was then lying at Macao. He did not know when the engines were built, but they were older than the ship. He could not say for certain, but he believed the boilers were over 20 years old. When he examined the engines and boilers in July last he found the shell plates of the boilers thin in several places and also the furnaces. They were safe enough at the pressure upon them then, but with continual running they would want repairing. He did not consider the boilers worth repairing. The engines were all right. He examined the boiler space and found the frames decayed from rot. The wood of the *White Cloud* must have been very good to have lasted so long. The *White Cloud* was good enough in ordinary weather for the run from Macao to Canton. She was a paddle boat and had sparsous. The latter would be a source of weakness in a heavy sea unless well fastened down, as the straining would tend to open the seams. The seam next to the covering board would be the first place affected. When he examined her on the 24th July he considered the *White Cloud* fit to make the voyage from Macao to Manila in ordinary weather. He had 25 years' experience of the weather in this part of the world and did not consider it safe to take the *White Cloud* to Manila in September. He considered that 100 tons of coal would be ample to serve the ship on a voyage to Manila. A hundred tons of coal would do her no harm with no other cargo in the hold, but the lighter her draught the safer she would be, as she would strain less. At a great expense she might have been put in a fit condition to go to Manila. He heard of the *White Cloud* having gone to Manila the day after she left. The weather was not bad then in Hongkong, but it could not be called fine and settled, as it was in the typhoon season. He considered that from the middle of August to the 10th October was the worst season. He himself as chief engineer would not have taken the *White Cloud* to Manila in September.

In reply to Mr. Grist, he said he would have taken an ordinary launch to Manila if properly fitted up and if hard up for a job. He did not consider the *White Cloud* as safe to go to Manila as one of the launches which had gone, but it was not particularly safe to go in either.

David Adamson said he held a chief engineer's certificate issued in 1879. On the 4th of September he joined the *White Cloud*, being engaged by Captain Raymond for one trip to Manila only. He went on board on the evening of the 4th September, when she was at Yaumati. On the 5th September she came round to Wanchai. When he signed on Captain Raymond was master of the ship. She sailed on the Friday after the 4th. While at Wanchai some measures were taken to strengthen the ship. He saw the shoring of the boilers

and the caulking of the seams. The bunkers were full when he joined the ship. He was given to understand that there were between 120 and 130 tons of coal on board. He did not go into the hold. He had a European second engineer with him and ten Chinese. They left the harbour at about four o'clock on the Friday afternoon, and at about nine o'clock at night the ship began to roll. The weather was not bad, but there was a heavy sea on. He noticed the water in the bunkers. It got in through a seam under the covering boards. He put the donkey pump on at about half-past nine. They kept the water fairly well under until the pump broke down. He turned in at 12 o'clock and was called up at a quarter-past one, when there was a good deal of water about the stoke-hole plates. The plates were about 30 inches above the bilge. The bilge-injection was put on and the water was reduced so as to enable them to get up a good head of steam at about half-past three. At about six o'clock in the morning a plank was stove in, and the water shot across from the starboard side to the port. It was impossible to repair the plank or stop the leak. The fires were put out by the water at about a quarter to seven or seven o'clock, and then as they had no means of pumping the water out, the Captain said there was no other course but to abandon the ship, which was done. From his experience as a chief engineer, he should say the vessel was not in a seaworthy condition to start leaking in such weather.

In reply to Mr. Grist, witness said he examined the engines and machinery. He had no reason to think the *White Cloud* was not seaworthy when she left the harbour. He would not have gone away with her had he thought she was not seaworthy.

Re-examined by Mr. Bowley—Captain Raymond told me he thought she was all right.

By the Court—I agreed to receive \$200 for the trip and a first-class passage back from Manila.

The further hearing was adjourned until to-day, defendant being again allowed bail.

Captain Raymond again appeared at the Magistracy on Saturday on the charge of knowingly taking the *White Cloud* to sea in an unseaworthy condition. Mr. Rodrigues, formerly sole engineer on the *White Cloud*, said he left the *White Cloud* in August last after having been on her for six years. The engines were in good condition but the boilers were weak. If there was no typhoon signalled and it was good weather he would willingly have gone to Manila in the *White Cloud*. Evidence having also been given by Li Po, who signed on as boatswain of the *White Cloud* for the voyage to Manila, the further hearing was adjourned till Tuesday.

At the Magistracy on Tuesday afternoon the hearing was resumed of the charge against Captain Raymond of taking the *White Cloud* to sea in an unseaworthy condition.

Mr. R. C. Dixon, Government Marine Surveyor, said he surveyed the *White Cloud* in 1893 and passed her for river limits. He would not have given her a certificate for going to sea. At great expense she might have been made fit for a sea voyage.

Mr. Jones boarding officer gave evidence as to Captain Raymond's service record.

Mr. McCulloch second engineer of the *White Cloud*, also gave evidence.

The case was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

A brutal robbery was committed at Bangkok the other day. It seems, according to the account given in the *Bangkok Times*, that about four o'clock in the morning the house of a Mrs. Clunis, in Windmill Road, was entered by a thief who went direct to the bedroom where Miss Clunis was sleeping. He at once seized her and proceeded to pull her earrings. She struggled and screamed, but the thief wrenched the ornaments away, mutilating both her ears rather badly in doing so. There were a pair of brilliants in the rings, worth it is said 4,000 ticals. These were the only things the thief attempted to take, and of course he cleared away as soon as he had got them. The other inmates of the house did not arrive on the scene till it was too late. Miss Clunis had, it seems, managed to recognise her assailant as a man living in the neighbourhood, and Chief Inspector Sheriff effected his arrest in the course of the day.

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The eighth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the North-China Insurance Co., Limited, was held at Shanghai on the 20th October. There were present:—Mr. A. McLeod (Chairman); Messrs. W. D. Little, E. Davis, D. Brand, C. Holliday (Directors); W. G. Bayne (Secretary); and F. E. Haskell, C. M. Dyce, J. M. Young, W. H. Anderson, H. A. J. Macray, W. Meyerink, A. Zickermann, G. Butler, E. Jenner Hogg, P. F. Lavers, J. Stenhouse, J. F. Rodewald, J. Hall, E. Wheley, and E. U. Smith.

The Chairman said—The chief business we have to transact this afternoon is the presentation and passing of the report and accounts for the past year, the declaration of dividend and the election of directors and auditors. The accounts have been in your hands for some few days and I presume you will agree to allow them to be taken as read. The directors regret that they are not so satisfactory as they had wished, but the past year has been notorious for being a bad one for underwriters, and we, in common with others, have suffered from this cause. The profits would have been somewhat larger, but that they have been entrenched upon by claims from the underwriting accounts of 1895 and 1896, for which the provision made at the time, owing to some severe losses, proved inadequate. The prospects for the future are encouraging, and our new system of having the annual meeting six months earlier than formerly enables us to form a better idea of what lies before us. We have to thank our friends here and in London, at home, for the generous support they have accorded to us under somewhat adverse circumstances during the past few years. This has been appreciated by the directors and we trust they will continue it. The rates of premia between Europe and the East are somewhat low; much as some advance is to be desired, there is no indication of a general movement towards advance in this direction. In other directions there are some signs of advances being made and this company will do everything in its power to foster this. The directors have carefully gone into the matter of the question of charges at the various branches. The changes which have recently been made will enable a considerable saving to be made in the near future. In June of this year we received a favourable offer for the present Company's property, which stands in our books at Tls. 50,000. We received an offer of Tls. 125,000. The amount will be written off from the property account during the coming year and the balance we propose to place to the credit of the reserve fund. At the termination of his agreement with the Company Mr. Ross decided to retire from the Company's service. Mr. Bayne, who had been for many years in the branch at Yokohama, and whose connection with the company dates back to 1868, was selected to fill his place, and has been in charge of the company's business here since the 1st of June of this year. Mr. L. K. Davis has been appointed acting agent in Yokohama, and, as far as we have ascertained yet, the business has gone on very smoothly and satisfactorily. The directors have had to deplore the death of their late Chairman, Mr. E. H. Lavers, who was connected with the company since its inception and for many years acted as Chairman. His death is a very severe loss to the company and you will equally regret it. We also regret the absence of Mr. Hearn, who has taken no active part in the management of the company's affairs for some time past. In order to fill some of the vacancies that have occurred the directors gave serious consideration as to whom they should ask to take a seat at the board, and unanimously came to the conclusion that it would be well for the company to ask Mr. W. Meyerink, of Messrs. Meyerink & Co., to join us. I am happy to say that he has consented to take his seat at the board, subject to your approval this afternoon. I do not know that there is anything more I can say, but before asking you to pass the report and accounts I shall be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. G. Butler—What remuneration, as a total sum, is given to the directors?

The Chairman—It comes in a resolution by and by.

Mr. G. Butler—But for the past year? The Chairman—Tls. 4,500.
Mr. G. Butler—That is divided amongst all? The Chairman—Yes.
Mr. G. Butler—It used to be more.
The Chairman—Yes, 6,000 taels. The directors voluntarily asked for it to be lowered. I beg to propose that the report and accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. G. Brand seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman—I beg to propose that a final share dividend of 5 per cent on the paid-up capital and a bonus of 10 per cent on contributory premiums be distributed, both payable at the exchange of 2/7 per tael.

Mr. W. D. Little seconded and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. M. Young—I beg to propose that Messrs. McLeod, Brand, Davis, Hearn, Holliday, and Little be re-elected directors of the company, and that Mr. W. Meyerink be elected as director, and that their remuneration be Tls. 4,500 per annum.

Mr. J. F. Rodewald seconded.

Mr. G. Butler—I should like to ask whether the contributions to premia by the different directors amount to the remuneration they receive per annum?

Mr. E. Jenner Hogg—I think that is a most improper question to ask, and I propose that the Chairman shall not reply. I do not think any shareholder that comes to this meeting has a right to question the private affairs of other shareholders.

Mr. G. Butler—As a shareholder in this Company I think I have a perfect right to enquire as to whether the board contribute as much as they receive.

Mr. E. Jenner Hogg—I do not care what the answer is. I say that the Chairman should not reply.

The Chairman—I think I may say that my answer would be perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Butler,

Mr. G. Butler—I have not the slightest doubt that the answer would be satisfactory. I think I have a perfect right to ask the question.

The Chairman—I may say that it is a very much larger sum.

Mr. G. Butler—Thank you, that is quite sufficient, sir.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr. E. Jenner Hogg—I beg to propose that Messrs. White and Wrightson be re-elected auditors to the company.

Mr. C. M. Dyce seconded and it was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE PERAK SUGAR CULTIVATION CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for the fourteenth annual general meeting to be held at the offices of the company, Shanghai, on Tuesday, 7th November:—

In presenting their report for the season 1898-1899, the directors are able to congratulate the shareholders on the great improvement which has taken place during the past year in the financial position of the company.

CROP.—The area cropped between 1st September 1898 and 31st August 1899—the twelve months under review—has been 1,274.25 orlongs (1,698.5 acres) which have produced piculs 54,920 (3,269 tons) of sugar, making an average of piculs 43 per orlong (1.9 tons per acre): the proportion of No. 1 sugar has been 80 per cent. of the whole output, as against 78.6 per cent. last year, the best previous record. The average price realised has been \$6 net per picul, as against \$5.83 per picul last year.

MOLASSES AND RUM.—The quantity of molasses sold, as compared with previous years, has been very small, there having been practically no demand for this product: on the other hand, a considerably larger quantity of rum has been made, the prices realised having been higher than usual.

PLANT.—The additions to the plant during the season have been unimportant, the amount appearing under this heading in the balance sheet having been applied to the cost of new cane punts. There have been no additions in the factory, which has worked well throughout the season.

BUILDINGS.—A new iron chimney has been erected in replace the old brick chimney, which, besides being too short to give the required draught for the furnaces, was found to be off the perpendicular and consequently unsafe. The cost of this work, Tls. 6,700 is included in working account against "up-keep of buildings, repairs and renewals."

EXTENSIONS.—A further area of 85 orlongs has been taken into cultivation during the year—29 orlongs by the company and 56 orlongs by Chinese under lease—the total area now opened is 1,843.75 orlongs, of which 372.50 orlongs are leased to Chinese cane-growers.

NEW CONCESSION.—The total area of this property is now about 3,500 acres, in the development of which some progress has been made during the past year, a sum of \$5,000 having been spent in clearing jungle, digging canals, and building coolie lines; it is intended to continue this work on a larger scale so soon as it is found possible to submit a definite scheme for consideration by the shareholders. The total cost of the new concession is Tls. 12,128.89; after deducting the Tls. 7,300 realised from the sale of the outlying block referred to in the last report, the amount standing at the debit of this account is Tls. 4,828.89.

CROP 1899-1900.—The area planted for the new season now commencing is 1,297.75 orlongs, of which 214.25 orlongs are under lease to Chinese. The whole output has been sold under forward contracts at an average net price of \$6.25 per picul, a slight advance on the previous year's average.

ACCOUNTS.—The working account for the twelve months shows a profit of Tls. 90,020.71, which is transferred to profit and loss account: this account, after deducting interest on debentures and the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid on 17th April, shows a credit balance of Tls. 78,189.60, from which has to be deducted manager's commission and bonus to the staff, amounting to Tls. 4,500.00, leaving an available balance of Tls. 73,689.60; which it is proposed to divide as follows:

A final dividend to shareholders of 7½ per cent., making a total of 12½ per cent. for the year	Tls. 18,750.00
To write off depreciation, say 10 per cent. from plant, buildings, launch and furniture	Tls. 14,173.83
To place to reserve	35,000.00
Carrying forward	5,765.77

Tls. 73,689.60

DIRECTORS.—Mr. C. J. Dudgeon resigned his seat on the board on his departure for Europe, the vacancy being filled by Mr. F. Anderson, whose appointment as director requires the confirmation of the shareholders.

Mr. J. H. McMichael, at present on special leave of absence, retires in rotation as required by the articles of association, but offers himself for reelection.

AUDITOR.—Mr. G. R. Wingrove again offers himself for re-election.

W. V. DRUMMOND,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 27th October 1899.

PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of Mr. Bailey the manager, for the month of September:—

TANKONG.

Adit levels.—A little ore approximately 130 tons, of very low grade, was stopped here.

Level No. 1. (50 foot level) Stope No. 1.—This stope continued to give us good ore and to look well ahead as it is worked. It has opened up ore bodies that developments at level No. 1 did not indicate or suggest the existence of.

Stope No. 2.—This stope continues to give us all the ore the mine is equipped to handle in connection with other work doing.

Only side stope here from drives from No. 1 crosscut have as yet been worked, leaving the ore between the top of the level and the adit levels as yet untouched.

Level No. 2. (100 foot level) South drive from crosscut No. 1.—Driven 6 feet, making a total of 59 feet from crosscut, on the lode, which continues fairly well defined and of low grade.

South drive from northwest drive from shaft. Driven 9 ft. making a total of 30 ft. from northwest drive from shaft. This drive we found was a little off the line of ore as proven in north drive from crosscut No. 1, so we widened it, stripping 19 ft. along it of fair ore, being the same ore body proven per above.

Northeast drive from Northwest drive from shaft.—This was started opposite where the last above mentioned drive started, on the same line of lode or formation, and driven 19 ft., but nothing of much value or promise shows therein as yet.

Uprise No. 1.—Continued on the lode 14 ft. making a total distance of 38 ft. from level No. 2. This lode and formation still shows nothing but low grade ore.

Product.—Almost everything from these workings is sent to the mill, though it is barely payable, if so at all.

Shaft.—This was sunk vertically in country rock 15 ft. making a total depth of 185 ft. At 150 ft. depth another level will be opened out herefrom.

SWAH.

No. 2 Workings, Shaft.—This was sunk on a slight incline on the lode 7 ft., making it a total depth of 32 ft. Work was discontinued here temporarily awaiting connection of adit drive with this shaft. The lode shows fairly well defined in the bottom hereof.

Adit Crosscut.—This was started from cutting 10 ft. in and driven through country rock 80 ft., making it a total of 40 ft. to the above shaft, to facilitate handling the ore, waste, and water from the shaft.

North adit drive.—This was started on the small lode or leader the above shaft is on, across a gully from it, 12 ft. in from the face of the hill, and driven 45 ft., making it a total of 57 ft. The little ore had herein at first has cut out.

GUBAU.

Level No 1.—North drive from winze.—This was driven 69 ft., making it a total of 100 ft. 6 in. from the winze. The ore had herein cut out almost entirely, but the formation is well defined.

North drive from crosscut from shaft.—This drive was started on a small bunch of stone which we now think is the same lode or line of formation the above drive is on.

It was driven 57 feet 6 inches and opened up a splendid ore body so far as it is yet developed, being good gold bearing quartz some 4 feet to 6 feet thick almost vertical with soft well defined porphyry walls.

Shaft.—Preparations are being made to sink this to further develop the ore found in drive last above mentioned.

REDUCTION WORKS.

Mill.—These were run equivalent to 29 1/2 days full time, 14 stamps on Headings and 8 stamps and 2 concentrators on Tankong and other ores, and yielding product as follows:—

Ore.	Tons.	Amalgam	Bullion	Estimated	Gold
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	Tons dry	fine in weight.
Headings	1,716.3	365.93	134.61	0	
Tankong	542.5				
Jalis	54.5			121.00	44.51
Manik	18.5				40 161.03
Total	2,331.8	486.93	179.12	40	161.03

* Assay value 0 dwts. 12.4 grs.

Bullion Assay here, Gold, 871.85 fine, value per oz. £3 14s. 0.811d. Silver, 111.97 fine, value per oz. 3.247 at 2s. 5d. Total £3 14s. 4.058d.

GENERAL.

Labour.—This continues scarcely sufficient for our wants.

Water Power.—This has been sufficient to run the mill during the month.

Transport.—Sickness and death among our contractors' bullocks made us very short of transport for timber and firewood during a part of the month and made it impossible to convey as much ore from "Tankong" to the mill as was wanted, but the condition is improving now.

Health.—This was good during the month both among Europeans and Asiatics.

We (Amoy Gazette) understand that Captain C. B. Maddox has bought the German barque "Elisabeth" and that she is now flying the British flag.

RAUB.

Manager's Report for month of September 1899:—

RAUB HOLE SECTION.

Owing to the scarcity of labour only slow progress has been made with the work in this section during the month under review. This difficulty has now been got over, and work is progressing as usual.

Winze below 220 ft. Level.—This is now down 80 feet below the 220 foot level, making total depth from surface 300 feet. This winze is being sunk to test small rich ore chute below where cut at 50 feet. I intend to sink winze to 100 feet and then test ore chute. This I hope to have down in three or four weeks.

Crosscut.—The crosscut going in east from the 220 foot Level is now in 336 feet. No change to report. Country hard black slate.

Small Prospecting Shaft.—To test ground in leader formation below old original workings. This is down 38 feet in hard black slate. We have already cut some leaders carrying fair gold. This ground was very rich when worked in the early days of this company, and I have no doubt a lot of gold will be won from it again.

BUKIT HITAM SECTION. In this section prospects continue very good. In the main drive going south the lode is about 18 inches wide, well defined and carrying first class gold, which I estimate will yield 2 to 3 ounces per ton. This drive is now in 338 feet (from the pump shaft) every foot of which carries good payable gold. An air shaft, No. 2, has been sunk from the surface and connected with the level. This gives good ventilation, which was very bad before.

Intermediate drive.—In this we are driving north and south on a large irregular body of ore in which good gold can be seen occasionally, but is very irregular. This ore body shows better going under foot.

New Engine Shaft.—Preparations are now in progress for putting an 8 inch pump in this shaft so as to resume sinking. This shaft is 14 ft. by 5 ft. clear of timber, and is now sunk to a depth of 98 feet.

It is my intention to sink this shaft to a depth of 160 feet before opening out the first permanent level. The work done so far is only prospecting. I hope to have all ready to start sinking in about three weeks.

Since putting in the new 8 in. double action steam pump there has been no trouble keeping the mine free from water.

BUKIT KOMAN SECTION.

In this section prospects continue extremely good. The stopes show large quantities of crushing stuff carrying a fair amount of gold.

In the No. 1 Level North, the No. 2 winze has holed through to bottom level. This makes two winzes on this side of the crosscut all ready for stoping. A crosscut has been driven west from the main level to test the country in that direction, but nothing fresh has been discovered. A crosscut has been put in east through the old workings about 120 feet north of the main crosscut into leader country, and a body of leaders carrying fair gold met with. This leader formation is from 3 ft. to 5 ft. wide and should turn out a lot of crushing stuff.

A new air shaft is being sunk from the surface over the No. 1 winze to facilitate sending down timber and mullock to fill in the ground when we start stoping to supply the new mill.

Same Level South.—The No. 2 winze has holed through to the bottom level. There are also four faces to start stoping from here.

The eight stopes at work over the back of this level are all looking very well indeed; the lode varying in thickness from 5 up to 30 feet. It is from these stopes where the bulk of the crushing stuff is coming from.

All the work in connection with connecting the New No. 1 South shaft and the No. 1 Main South Level is completed, and driving the south end of this level has been resumed. This level is now 123 ft. south from the Bukit Koman shaft, every foot of which is payable.

From the No. 1 south shaft a crosscut has been driven 218 ft. east and 136 ft. west of the lode. This was driven to prospect the ground in that direction, but nothing payable was got east of the lode so I have discontinued this work for the present.

I am now making preparations to sink the No. 1 south shaft another 100 ft. so as to connect it with No. 2 Bukit Koman south main level. As soon as this work is finished sinking will be resumed.

No. 2 Level Bukit Koman—in the north end a crosscut has been driven 32 ft. to connect this level with the No. 2 winze and we are now driving the north end on lode.

In the south end, same level, we are driving south on the lode, which is from 4 ft. to 5 ft. thick and shows fair gold in breaking the stone. This is the new lode cut a short time ago and is looking very well.

No. 1 North Shaft.—The new pumping and winding machinery for this shaft has been completed and a trial made on the 7th instant, everything working first class. Sinking the shaft was resumed on the 9th and the shaft is now down 56 ft. This shaft is 14 ft. by 5 ft. clear of timber.

BUKIT JELIS SECTION.

In this section we are carrying in two drives north on the lode at the 150 ft. level, one drive 52 feet east of shaft, and one at 123 feet. The first of these drives is in 15 feet on a small make of stone, which I think is the same that carries the good gold in the prospecting workings, but carries no gold at this level. When in far enough, 62 feet I intend to rise up and connect with prospecting workings and see if the gold can be traced from them. The No. 2 drive is being driven north on a body of nice looking stone about 3 feet thick in which a little gold can be got but is not payable.

A drive is also being put in at 50 ft. (Adit level) to connect the old tunnel put in years ago with the engine shaft. There should be some thousand of tons of payable ore got from this tunnel as prospects were considered fairly good when this tunnel was driven eight or nine years ago. As this hill rises to a height of from 150 to 200 feet there should be a large amount of ground to stop above this tunnel.

BATTERY.

On the 3rd inst. the usual rough clean up of battery took place, when 950 tons crushed gave a return of 2,420 ozs. of amalgam. The quantity of ore crushed is below the average owing to the battery being stopped four days for repairs, the time the battery was crushing being three weeks and three days.

ELECTRIC INSTALLATION.

Sempam.—There has been very little work done on this section during the month owing to our not having fittings for pipe line.

As some of these have now arrived on the ground the work of putting the pipe line together is being proceeded with. The long delay in getting these pipes will add considerable to the cost of the work on this section.

All work on this section except putting the pipe line together and generating machinery in power house is now complete.

During the month the water was turned into flume and pipe head Reservoir from river and everything found to work in the most satisfactory manner.

CABLE TRACK.

Good progress has been made with the work on this. The erection of all the posts and insulators has been finished and I expect to finish placing the main cables in position by the end of next week. Also good progress is being made with erection of telephone. I expect to have the whole of his work finished in about a fortnight from now to transforming station at Raub.

NEW 40 HEAD STAMP BATTERY.

Good progress has been made with the erection of this. The buildings are finished, excepting some small details. Railway to the house almost completed, ore bins for feeding stamps are finished, foundations for batteries are finished, stamper boxes bolted down in place on piles and columns for carrying stamps and shafting are placed in position and most of the heavy shafting is in place. Timber for blankets and concentrating tables is almost all dressed, and most of the material for making concrete, for foundation of mortars is ready. Six weeks to two months should see all this work about completed.

NEW DAM AT SUNGAI KOMAN.

This is finished and the water has been running over the by-wash during the whole month.

There are over 12,000 yards of earth-work in the bank, which is 16 feet high by 52 feet wide at base. The small service reservoir for supplying battery is finished and the pipes to the battery partly laid. Also small house to contain the electric pump to raise water from Dam a sufficient height to supply the mill.

Wm. BIBBY,
Manager.

THE WEIHAIWEI LAND INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED.

The statutory meeting of the Weihaiwei Land Investment Co. Limited, was held at the offices of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. Shanghai, on the 27th October, Mr. A. McLeod (Chairman) presided. Present Messrs. E. Jenner Hogg, E. B. Skottowe and W. A. C. Platt (Directors) E. U. Smith, J. M. Yong, D. Hay, W. S. Jackson, W. D. Little L. F. Bridges and P. F. Lavers (Secretary) representing 860 shares. The Chairman explained that they were met in accordance with Companies Ordinances, which laid down that a meeting of shareholders of every new Company must be held within four months of its formation. He had no business to lay before the shareholders, but if any of them had any questions to ask he would answer them to the best of his ability.

There being no questions the meeting adjourned.

THE BANK OF CHINA AND JAPAN, LIMITED.

The following circular has been issued to the shareholders:—"The working of the New Bank has resulted rather more favourably than in previous years at same date, and it is anticipated there will be again a reduction, consequent on recovery of Calls, in the amount of deficiency account at Dec. 31 next. The appeal in the suit in New York Courts against an American shareholder in the Old Bank was not decided in June as was anticipated, but it is expected to obtain the decision during next month. The re-hearing of the suits in the Shanghai Mixed Court against Chinese shareholders was fixed for an early date in August last, but before this came on the Deputy (Shen Tun Ho) appointed by the Chinese Government to hear the appeal, who had been denounced for bribery, was sentenced by his Government to punishment, and the re-hearing is consequently indefinitely postponed."

BOXING CONTESTS AT THE CITY HALL.

Promptly to time, 9 p.m. on Tuesday night, a considerable number of lovers of the manly art of self-defence mustered to witness what promised to be one of the best events of the kind seen in Hongkong, and in this they were not disappointed, the event of the evening proving a surprise from the first round to the sixth, when it was brought to a sudden and unexpected close. The three matches which preceded the chief event were also very good and showed that there are a number of excellent boxers to be found in Hongkong. None of the men had been in training, yet all showed good form in the particular line of attack and defence which they followed.

FIRST EVENT.—Three round Exhibition Spar between Corporal G. Watkins and J. Sullivan for a Silver Medal.

Sullivan was the taller and heavier man and had the advantage of a longer reach, but Watkins made up for these disadvantages by quick hitting and better form.

First Round.—Both opened with some lively sparring and there was a free exchange of light blows. Neither gained any advantage.

Second Round.—This opened with quick hitting and towards the end Watkins got in a heavy blow which seemed to disconcert Sullivan, for he ducked frequently afterwards and hit out rather wildly.

Third Round.—Opened with lively sparring, Watkins going down once but quickly recovering his feet.

Watkins was the better boxer, but failed to follow up his advantages.

Second Ev. N.P.—Five round contest between Capt. T. N. and Jim Watkins for a Gold B.C.

Thomas was taller and had the advantage of reach. Both were well matched as to weight, but Watkins showed more steadiness and after the first round forced the fighting, but like his namesake in the previous event, failed to follow up his advantages.

First Round.—Neither combatant seemed inclined to open out, each apparently taking the measure of his opponent, and few blows were exchanged till near the end of the round, which finished with no advantage to either.

Second Round.—Watkins now forced the fighting and some heavy hitting was exchanged. Thomas stumbled, but recovered himself at once. No advantage was gained by either.

Third Round.—Opened with heavy hitting, Thomas getting more blows in, but Watkins, cooler and hitting harder, had decidedly the best of it. Thomas stumbled just as time was called and had the round been continued would certainly have received more punishment.

The other two rounds were not fought.

THIRD EVENT.

This was an extra event made up to fill in time while a man was found to meet the Middle-weight Champion of California, Dan Jones wanting a fortnight's training to get into form to meet his opponent, who had the advantage of many months' training and was in splendid form.

Frank Howard of the V.R.C. and Geo. Stanford, Middle-weight Champion of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, who came up for this event, both showed themselves to be able boxers. Stanford after the first round forced the fighting and had decidedly the best of it, though his swing hits and under cuts, resorted to on account of the activity and frequent ducking of Howard, seldom got home, and the latter acquitted himself well in the three rounds fought.

THE PRINCIPAL EVENT.

Dan Jones, in spite of the disadvantage he was labouring under of being out of training, whilst the Champion Middle-weight of California, coming off the Argentine training ship *Presidente Sarmiento*, of which he is the boxing tutor to the Cadets, was in splendid form, consented to come forward for the twelve round contest arranged for, and acquitted himself in a manner which justified his claim to the Middle-weight Championship of East London, whilst the Californian showed by the severe punishment which he stood for five rounds till he finished the contest with one blow in the sixth, that his reputation as one of the leading boxers of the world is well merited.

Collins had the advantage of height and reach over his opponent and when he threw off his jacket to meet Jones showed a massive chest and shoulders one mass of muscles, which, with the activity and science he displayed, boded ill for Jones in his untrained condition. The course of the fight, however, was a surprise even for those used to such contests, for Jones for five rounds not only held his own, but dealt out to the Californian such punishment as only a man of the most magnificent physique could have stood and completely paralysed his attempts to return the blows he received.

Round after round Collins came up and, watching his chance, actively manoeuvring round his sturdy opponent, received blow after blow and jab after jab on and about the chest in the region of the heart which completely disabled him from a return attack. After many of the blows he drew back, and had Jones followed up his advantage he would without doubt have made many more points, for though acting on the defensive throughout he had the fight to himself for the first five rounds, the Californian retreating to recover after every advance and failing every time to get return blows in. In the fourth and fifth rounds Collins showed, by constantly keeping his left hand over his heart and the hesitation he displayed when he thought Jones was going to strike out, that he could hardly stand such punishment beyond another round or two, and it seemed as if the sixth or seventh round must close with victory to the Champion of East London, who kept up his tactics of striking for the one spot, only twice or thrice in all these rounds landing on the face but those blows being very heavy ones.

The silence of the spectators showed how keenly the contest was watched, the universal opinion being that Jones must win. To avoid punishment Collins closed with his opponent

more than once and in the sixth round succeeded in getting in a tremendous blow on Jones's chest in the region of the heart which knocked him over like a log. Jones was unable to recover his feet before the count was over and then had to be helped up and out by his seconds.

This contest was fought throughout on both sides by body blows, a form of fighting initiated by Jones and one which amateurs unused to witness the contests of the world's champion boxers seldom see. Without doubt blows over the region of the heart are far more telling than those delivered in the face, as the final knockout proved. Not more than a dozen blows throughout the six rounds were delivered on the face and only two or three of those by Jones, though he had ample opportunity for getting them in.

When Collins was proclaimed the victor he was enthusiastically applauded by the Cadets from the *Sarmiento*, of whom quite a number were present, and for some time he was surrounded by them, congratulating him on his victory. He seems to be a prime favourite with them.

THE VOLUNTEER ENCAMPMENT.

THE NIGHT ATTACK.

The night attack on Stonecutters Island came off on Thursday, 26th October some half-dozen launches containing members of the Royal Fusiliers endeavouring to effect a landing. The Volunteers were assisted in the defence of the island by some men from the Royal Engineers. Launches containing Maxims acted as patrols, the rest of the Machine Guns being on the beach. The Field Battery and Infantry were assigned to different parts of the Island, while the searchlights were in full play. The enemy arrived at half-past eight, and after trying in vain for about an hour to land the signal to "cease fire" was given.

INSPECTION BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

On Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake), as Honorary Colonel of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, visited Stonecutters Island and inspected the men, after which he addressed a few words to them. In the course of his remarks he urged every man to make himself efficient, reminding them that an inefficient man was worse than useless to the corps. He added that it had been decided to provide the Field Battery with mountain guns and that the Machine Gun Companies would also be provided with up-to-date maxims before long.

In the afternoon the men went over to Lychikok for some target shooting, the Machine Gun Companies competing for a Silver cup kindly offered by H.E. Major General Gascogne. The Major General and Colonel The O'Gorman witnessed the shooting. The Field Battery did very well, and the Machine Gun also gave a good account of themselves.

The camp broke up on Monday.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

30th October.

Volunteering has engaged all the attention of the young men during the past week and in consequence little of particular interest has occurred in the Football world. On Thursday, owing to some military operations, the 38th S.D., R.A., were unable to keep their fixture with the Hongkong Football Club and the latter on account of the short notice given were unable to fill the vacancy, so were left without a game.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB'S SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

During the week only one game has been decided, last Monday Noble and Lowe playing a draw of one goal each.

The record date is—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals for	Goals against	Points
Noble	6	3	0	3	6	1	9
Greene	5	3	1	1	6	1	7
Kew	5	1	1	3	4	4	5
Locke	6	1	2	3	5	8	4
Lowe	4	0	0	4	2	2	4
Pinekney	6	0	2	4	3	6	4
Maynor	6	1	3	2	6	4	4

There are still two games unplayed—Greene v. Lowe and Kew v. Lowe. Only the former will, however, have any bearing on the result. In the event of Lowe beating or drawing with Greene, Noble will be the winner, but should Greene overcome Lowe he will then tie with Noble and a deciding match between the two will be necessary.

One of the difficulties of working this six-a-side competition is the provision of substitutes. In the first year of the competition there was no particular rule on the subject and a captain was allowed to call in the assistance of any member when he was shorthanded. Naturally this did not work very well, as it was found that the substitutes usually unduly strengthened the team they were assisting.

The second year five members of medium ability were selected and the captains were only allowed to substitute from them. We think the number was found to be small, as this, the third year, all taking part in the competition excepting the captains and first and second picks have been made available for this purpose. Still a solution of the difficulty has not yet been arrived at. It is found that a captain can considerably improve on his selected team by a judicious selection of substitutes, and of course this is not as it should be. We would suggest that next year all excepting captains should be allowed as substitutes, but that every substitute must be of a lower grade than the man he is taking the place of. For instance:—Substitute for a captain—1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th pick; substitute for a 1st pick—2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th pick; and so on.

Of course for a 5th pick another 5th pick would have to be allowed.

REMARKS.

The V.R.C. six-a-side competition has been "hanging fire" for some time, but now that the Volunteer camp week is over an effort will be made to bring it to a successful issue. The report which is being circulated that there are no prizes at stake is incorrect for, as stated in the press at the time of the formation of the competition, the committee arranged, in case no donor came forward, to provide prizes from the club funds.

Considering the great interest taken in Football in Hongkong it is surprising that there is such a paucity of good referees, last season the great bulk of the refereeing devolving on one man. It would benefit the game greatly if a few gentlemen would post themselves in the rules and give their services in this direction.

They might form themselves into a small association to assist one another in the interpretation of the rules.

We would suggest to the Shield Committee that they should appoint a number of gentlemen as Official Referees for the cup ties and publish a list of their names and addresses. We are sure that all the teams would be only too willing to provide them with practice in refereeing friendly games.

Later.

Since date of the above notes the following events have been decided:—

The Hongkong Football Club's practice game, Whites versus Reds, played on Monday afternoon, resulted in a draw, each side scoring one goal. The "Reds" goal was scored by Yule, from a nice centre by Danby, early in the first half, and Cox notched the "Whites" point, near the end of the game, in semi-darkness. Both sides played with four forwards only. Tulloch (Reds) and Seth (Whites) being absentees, and in consequence the play of either attacking brigade was very ragged. The Whites forward line, Lowe, Green, Noble, and Greene, was stronger than Reds, but met with a more capable back division in Blake, Pinckney, Looker, Hinds, and Jenkins. Chad Kew played excellently at centre-half for Whites and Hornby, Hall, and Fred Kew also did well. For Reds Danby and Hancock were best of the forwards, but Libeard no doubt would do better with a stronger partner.

On Wednesday in the Hongkong Football Club's six-a-side competition Lowe's team beat Greene's by one goal to nil. This result decides the competition in Noble's team's favour. Their record is 9 points out of a possible 12.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB V. HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

This match was played on Saturday and resulted in an easy win for the Football Club. The Cricket Club, however, was handicapped by the absence of the Rev. G. R. Vallings. The following are the scores:—

Hongkong Cricket Club.

Lt. Strong, R.M.L.L.	c Hancock, b Weymouth	3
Lt. H. F. Jelf, R.N.	c Tuck, b Weymouth	36
D. Wood, b Higgon		1
Lt. Hill, R.W.F.	b Higgon	14
C. S. P. Franklin, R.N.	b. w. Ross	19
Capt. Langhorne, R.A.	c Weymouth, b Ross	12
A. Wilson, R.N.	b Ross	2
Major Clark, R.A.M.C.	b Ross	3
H. M. Elliott, R.N.	c Ross, b Weymouth	4
Lt. Lewis, R.A., not out		0
Rev. Vallings, absent		
Extras		2
		96

Total.

Hongkong Football Club.

Dr. Tuck, R.N.	c Franklin, b Jelf	21
J. E. Lee, b Elliott		6
H. C. R. Hancock, c sub. b Jelf		15
A. G. Ward, c sub. b Elliott		55
Capt. Tulloch, R.A., run out		22
J. A. Higgon, R.W.F., b Clark		6
Capt. Weymouth, R.A., b Clark		0
J. A. Ross, c Wood, b Franklin		57
H. Rotherham, R.W.F., c Wood, b Franklin		41
A. Lowe, run out		1
R. G. Thomson, R.A., not out		3
Extras		18
		240

Total.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Hongkong Cricket Club.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	M.B.	Wickets.
Weymouth	17	2	62	—	3
Higgon	12	3	24	—	2
Ross	4.1	—	8	—	4

Hongkong Football Club.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	M.B.	Wickets.
Elliot	18	3	61	—	2
Langhorne	14	3	58	—	—
Jelf	10	2	47	—	2
Franklin	10.8	1	20	—	2
Clark	5	—	20	—	2
Wilson	3	—	21	—	—

SHANGHAI AUTUMN RACE MEETING.

FIRST DAY TUESDAY, 31ST OCTOBER

Judging from the times the Races must have been on a very heavy course, in fact as we go to press a telegram comes to hand with the information that rain has been falling in Shanghai all day.

The JOCKEY CUP: value Tls. 100; second pony Tls. 25 for China ponies that have never won a race; to be ridden by jockeys who have not had more than two winning mounts; non-winners allowed 5 lbs.; winners of one race, weight for inches as per scale; winners of two races, 7 lbs extra, entrance, Tls. 5. Once Round.

Emerald	...	...	...	...	1
Tiber	...	...	...	...	2
Florist	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 2 min. 58 sec.

The CRITERION STAKES: a sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each, with Tls. 1505 added; second pony Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Yangtsze	...	...	...	...	1
Callisto	...	...	...	...	2
Standard Rose	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 2 min. 17 sec.

The MAIDEN STAKES: value, Tls. 800; second pony, Tls. 75; third pony, Tls. 50; for China ponies that have never run at any meeting; weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Three-quarters of a mile.

Corkscrew	...	...	...	...	1
T. T. 2	...	...	...	...	2
Shut el Arab	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 1 min. 41 sec.

The MALOO PLATE: value Tls. 150; second pony, Tls. 50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Half-a-mile.

Ariel	...	...	...	...	1
Blaubart	...	...	...	...	2
Toosin	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 1 min. 51-5th sec.

The CLUB CUP: value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs.; entrance, Tls. 5. Two miles.

Impact	...	...	...	...	1
Sammie	...	...	...	...	2
Cogbie	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 4 mins. 55 2-5ths secs.

The LOTTERY STAKES: for all China ponies; value, Tls. 200 added to a sweepstakes of Tls. 15 each; forfeit Tls. 5, if declared on or before the date of closing the entries for the Autumn Meeting, when the balance Tls. 10 is to be paid, and the name and colour of the pony declared; the stakes will be divided as follows:—First pony 70 per cent., second pony 20 per cent., and third pony 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale; winners of a race of one mile or over to carry 5 lbs. extra; griffins which have arrived in Shanghai on or after 1st August 1899 allowed 7 lbs.; non-winners, and griffins purchased prior to above date, allowed 4 lbs.; no ponies qualified to run unless entered at Autumn Meeting, in an official race; one mile and a half; nominations, which are transferable, close on 1st July.

Nominations to be sent to the Secretary on or before the 1st day of July together with an entrance fee of Tls. 5 for each nomination taken. Dates of arrival and/or purchase to be declared on entry forms at closing of the Autumn entries; closed on 1st July 27 nominations.

Shannon	...	...	...	...	1
Rose de France	...	...	...	...	2
The Broker	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 3 mins. 38 2-5ths secs.

The AUTUMN CUP: value, Tls. 150: second pony Tls. 50; third pony Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale: winner of the Criterion Stakes 5 lbs. extra: non-winning Jockeys allowed 5 lbs: entrance Tls. 5., One mile and a quarter.

Loyalty	...	...	...	...	1
Tea Rose	...	...	...	...	2
Otani	...	...	...	...	3

Time, 2 mins. 58 3-5ths secs.

bond fide griffins at date of entry, that have not been in Shanghai or purchased by a Foreigner prior to 1st August last; weight for inches as per scale; winners, 5 lbs. extra; non-winning jockeys allowed 5 lbs. entrance, Tls. 5. One mile.

Y Y 2 1
Shut-el-Arab 2
Eskdale 3

Time, 2 min. 18 sec.

THE PAGODA CUP; value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; ponies that have started at this meeting and never won a race allowed 7 lbs; winner of the Criterion Stakes 5 lbs. extra; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile.

Emerald 1
Blanbart 2
White Rose 3

Time, 2 min. 17½ sec.

THE SHANGHAI STAKES; a forced entry of Tls. 5, with Tls. 100 added, for all ponies otherwise entered at this meeting; first pony to receive 70 per cent., second pony, 20 per cent., third pony, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale; griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs. One mile and a half.

Callisto 1
Shaunon 2
Yangtsze 3

Time, 3 min. 34½ sec.

THE RACING STAKES; value, Tls. 100, added to a Sweepstakes of Tls. 5 each; second pony, Tls. 59; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China Ponies that have never raced previous to 1st January 1899; weight for inches as per scale; winners, 5lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5lbs. One mile and a quarter.

Zolotoi 1
Rio-Grande 2
Canopus 3

Time, 3 min.

THE SYCEE STAKES; value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for China ponies, being bond fide griffins at date of entry; weight for inches as per scale: winners of a race 7 lbs. extra; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and a quarter.

The Dealer 1
Brisk 2
Y Y 2 3

Time 2 minutes 58 seconds.

THE LLAMA MIAU STAKES; value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; ponies that have started at this meeting and not won a race allowed 7 lbs.; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and three-quarters.

Shannon 1
Thistle 2
Dorogoi 3

Time 4 minutes 10.3/5 seconds.

THE SICCAWEI CUP; value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 60; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; unplaced ponies at this meeting allowed 5 lbs.; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and a quarter.

Strath flest 1
Tiber 2
Chessy 3

THIRD DAY, THURSDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER.

The FLYAWAYPLATE; value. Tls. 150; second pony, Tls. 50; for China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Seven furlongs.

Callisto 1
Standard Rose 2
White Rose 3

Time 1min. 55 4/5 sec.

THE RACE CLUB CHALLENGE CUP; value, Tls. 500; for China ponies, being bona fide griffins at date of entry. To be won at two consecutive meetings or three times in all by ponies the bona fide property of the same owner or owners; entrance, Tls. 10; 70 per cent to the first pony, 20 per cent. to the second pony, and 10 per cent. to the third pony until the cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent and the third pony 25 per cent. of the entrance fees; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

The Dealer 1
T. T. 2 2
Luck 3
Time 2min. 55sec.

THE COSMOPOLITAN CUP; value, Tls. 200; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25 if five or more starters. For all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winner at this meeting 5 lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs. entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and three-quarters.

Impact 1
Sammie 2
Thistle 3
Time 4min. 9 4/5sec.

THE GRAND STAND STAKES; value, Tls. 150; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25; for China ponies, being bona fide griffins at date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race, 5 lbs. extra; two or more races, 7 lbs. extra; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile.

Adonis 1
Shut-el-Arab 2
Apostrophe 3
Time 2min. 14 1/5sec.

THE PARIS MUTUEL CUP; value, Tls. 100, added to a Sweepstakes of Tls. 5 each; first pony to receive 70 per cent., second pony 20 per cent., third pony 10 per cent.; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; griffins, at date of entry allowed 7 lbs.; non-starters, and winners at this meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One mile and a half.

Shannon 1
Florist 2
The Broker 3
Time, 3 min. 28.3/5 sec.

THE MANCHU STAKES; value, Tls. 150; second pony, Tls. 50; third pony, Tls. 25; for China ponies bona fide griffins at date of entry, that have run and not won a race; weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and a quarter.

Luck 1
Cilehiw 2
Dancer 3
Time, 2min. 53.1/5 sec.

THE CONSOLATION CUP; value, Tls. 150; second pony, Tls. 59; third pony, Tls. 25; for ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race, and have been entered otherwise than in the Shanghai Stakes; weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Once round.

White Rose 1
Tea Rose 2
Rio-Grande 3
Time, 2min. 45.3/5secs.

THE CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES; value, Tls. 350; second pony, Tls. 100, third pony, Tls. 50; a forced entry for and open only to winners at this meeting; weight for inches as per scale; each pony entered to pay five per cent. of the value of the stakes and prizes won. One mile and a quarter.

Damascus 1
Loyalty 2
Shannon 3
Time, 2min. 47.4/5secs.

COLLISION BETWEEN FRENCH AND CHINESE AT KWANG-CHAUWAN.

A HUNDRED CHINESE KILLED.

We translate the following from the *Courrier d'Haiphong*:

24th October.

We have received news of a rather serious engagement which took place a few days ago at Kwangchauwan between French troops from Hoiteou fort and armed Chinese. The following are the circumstances.

The officer in command of the troops had sent a detachment of seventy-five men to make a reconnaissance at some distance from Hoiteou. This detachment in the course of its march met several bands of Chinese armed with rifles scattered along the route. Arrived at their objective point our soldiers halted, and having rested and refreshed themselves, set out on the return march. The officer commanding the company soon perceived that the Chinese met a few hours previously had united and were assuming a threatening attitude. He immedi-

ately organised his small force to repel any aggression should such be attempted. The event justified his precautions, for fire was opened almost immediately. A lively engagement ensued between the Chinese and the company of marine infantry. Another company, supported by two guns, which was sent by the Commandant as soon as the fire was heard, put the remaining Chinese to flight.

In this affair we had three wounded. The Chinese left a hundred dead on the ground.

We have not been able to learn the cause of this affair nor if the Chinese who attacked our troops were regulars or not. The affair happened on the eve of Marshal Su's arrival at Kwangchauwan, on the day but one before, Marshal Su landed on the 19th October, arriving from Canton, where he had been to receive the instructions of the Viceroy of the province.

As already announced Marshal Su has come from Peking with plenary powers to settle all pending questions between the French and Chinese in South China. The Kwangchauwan delimitation commission will commence its work on the 27th October. Marshal Su is the president and Admiral Courrejolles represents the French Government. Vice-Consul Khan is the interpreter. Mr. Bertrand, Marshal Su's consulting engineer, is at this moment passing through Haiphong, having been urgently summoned by the Viceroy of Canton and the Marshal to proceed to Kwangchauwan as speedily as possible.

28th October.

It appears that the conflict that took place at Kwangchauwan a few days ago was more serious than was at first supposed. It is stated that the reconnoitering company met a force of from a thousand to twelve hundred armed Chinese and had to retire, in good order, on the Hoiteou fort. The Surprise, which is at present at Kwangchauwan, has moved up to the head of the bay ready to open fire with her guns on the rebels. The arrival of Marshal Su cannot fail to have a salutary effect upon the population of the territory bordering on our possession. We hope that the authors of the disturbances may be discovered and punished according to their deserts.

DESPATCH OF CHINESE TROOPS FROM CANTON.

Particulars have already been given, taken from a Amiphong paper, of a collision which occurred a few days ago between the French troops and a Chinese force at Kwangchauwan. We now learn that on the 30th October two thousand troops were sent from Canton to Kwangchauwan, the Black Flag chief Liu Yung-fu being at the head of five hundred of this number, and three other military mandarins named Fong, Mok, and Chan having command of five hundred each.

Whether these troops have been sent merely to preserve order amongst the Chinese and prevent opposition to the delimitation arrangements or with the more sinister view of giving the French trouble does not appear.

THE CHINESE MINISTER TO FRANCE REFUSED AUDIENCE.

In connection with the above the following, from the *N. C. Daily News*, may possess some significance:

A local vernacular paper reports the recent arrival at Paris of Yu Keng (Manchu) the new Chinese Minister to France and successor of a fellow Manchu, Ching Ch'ing, who had to retire through the denunciations against him by Lu Hai-huan, Chinese Minister at Berlin, owing to the murder and suicide of two attachés in the Paris Legation. The vernacular paper states that when Yu Keng arrived at Paris he called, in accordance with the usual official etiquette, on the French Foreign Office, and amongst other things requested to know when he could have the honour of presenting his credentials to the President of the Republic. The reply given next day was that: "President Loubet had decided not to receive Yu Keng until the French boundaries at Kwangchau Bay had been satisfactorily settled by the Chinese Government." The above, it may be noted, has been confirmed by dispatches received by the local mandarins from Nanking and Peking, the latter announcing that this treatment of a Chinese Minister duly accredited is resented by the Tsungli Yamen and that when the Empress Dowager heard of her indignation was extreme. The reply of the

French Government to Yu Keng's request is taken to indicate that, if the Kwangchau Bay boundaries are marked according to the desires of the French, well and good; Yu Keng would, of course, be received with effusion. If not, then Yu Keng must expect to receive his passport and leave France at once.

The following is also from the *N. C. Daily News*:

It is reported in mandarin circles that one of the many demands of the French with reference to the "lease" of Kwangtung Bay or *wain*, is that for the large and populous island of Naotao, whose inhabitants are mostly daring, deep-sea fishermen, and hardy mariners who navigate their junks even as far as Borneo, Sumatra, and the Straits. They would make a splendid auxiliary force to the French if given over to the latter. It is for this reason and because Naotao is considered the key of the route between the three prefectures of Leichow, Kiungchow (Hainan island), and Liechow that the Chinese Government is determined not to give way to the French on this point, while it is obvious to any one that should Naotao be in the hands of an active and powerful Sea Power, Kwangchau Bay and its dependencies would be quite at its mercy. As Marshal Su has been personally commanded by the Empress Dowager not to give in on the Naotao island question and the French are just as determined in trying to get possession of the place, the only feasible way to settle the matter would be for the Chinese Government to give an undertaking, *à la Chusan Archipelago*, but to part with the island to any other Power but France, if the question of surrendering the place by China should ever come on the *tapis*. It is believed that Marshal Su will suggest this during his conference with the French at Kwanchauwan.

RUSSIA CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Hupao* received on 25th October a wire from its Peking correspondent to the effect that the Tsungli Yamen had received from the Russian Minister in Peking a most haughty and aggressive dispatch sternly prohibiting the Chinese Government from engaging Mr. Yano, Japanese ex-Minister at the capital, as Chief Adviser to the Tsungli Yamen, and also demanding that the further sending of Chinese youths to Japan to study the military profession be at once stopped. The dispatch, it is stated, ended with much threatening language similar to that of a conqueror to his vanquished enemies. With reference to the proposed engagement of a Japanese official to act as Chief Adviser to the Central Government, it will be remembered that this paper was the first to make the intention known. This was at the time of the appointment of the Empress Dowager's two envoys to the Mikado, a part of whose mission, we stated, was to invite Marquis Ito to fill this important post. As the Marquis could ill be spared by his country, he recommended Mr. Yano instead for the post, and Mr. Yano being greatly liked and respected at Peking, the matter was quickly settled and a new Minister to Peking was appointed by the Mikado's Government. If the *Hupao*'s correspondent is right, it is evident that relations between Russia and China are rather strained, especially as it is believed that the Tsungli Yamen does not intend to give way to the Russian Minister's demands—at present.—*N. C. Daily News*.

PIRACY ON THE YANGTSZE.

A gang of thieves boarded the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Poyang*, bound up river from Shanghai, at Tatung about 10 o'clock on the night of the 13th October. In all twelve persons embarked, three of whom were bona fide passengers who booked for Kiukiang. The remainder not having their passage money had their clothes, as is customary, taken in pawn. The men, who showed no signs of combination, took up berths in various parts of the Chinese steerage quarters and settled themselves quietly. However, about three hours later, just before the vessel reached Ngankin, the nine men, who were suddenly discovered to be armed with large knives and swords, made a raid on the Chinese passengers' effects. The *compradore's* assist-

ants tried to get them to desist, but were in consequence roughly handled; one man being so injured as to necessitate his removal to hospital on the ship's arrival at Hankow. Finding the pirates were taking charge, the chief officer, Mr. Maundrell, was aroused by the *compradore* and with the assistance of the officer of the watch, the second and third engineers, and native crew the gang were after a hard struggle overcome and, with the exception of one who jumped overboard, handcuffed and secured in a spare coal bunker until the vessel's arrival at her destination when they were handed over to the Police. The Chinese both at Kiukiang and Hankow are delighted over the capture as the gang were well-known miscreants.

The men who were tried at the Mixed Court, Hankow, for attempting piracy on board of the steamer *Poyang*, and found guilty, have been handed over to the Chinese authorities by whom it is expected they will be decapitated.—*N. C. Daily News*.

CHINGWANTAO.

In connection with the Northern Railway it would be as well to call attention to the scheme that is being put forward for converting the open roadstead of Chingwantao by means of a breakwater into a safe and commodious shipping port, as if ever this scheme comes to maturity it is bound to have very considerable effect upon the prosperity of the Tientsin to Shanghai section of the line.

The originator of this vast scheme is Mr. G. Detring, who has Chang Yen-mao—or Chang Yi according to his official appellation—at his back. Mr. Detring has been officially appointed Commissioner of Customs at Chingwantao, but the appointment is purely nominal for the present, as he does not reside there, and there would be nothing whatever to do if he did live there. Chingwantao being at present represented merely by barren rock and a strip of sandy beach. As a port its existence depends solely on future developments. Chingwantao is a rocky island at the eastern extremity of the small bay on the coast beyond Peitaiho, and is only 9 miles from Rocky Point of the latter place, being separated from the mainland by a narrow strip dry at low water. The place is 12 miles west of Sanghaikuan. It is proposed to build a circular breakwater from the end of this island to a point in the little bay of such a curve that it will enclose an area of two miles by one mile. Messrs. Wolfe Barry of London sent out an engineer to survey the place, and to draw the plans for the most prodigious and ambitious scheme that was ever proposed by foreigners in Far Cathay. It must be borne in mind that no town exists there at present, so it is proposed to create one, and therefore on the plan of the new port appears a town well laid out on the American system, and this lies to the north of the port, where at present there is sandy beach. Between the rocky island on the east and the site of the proposed town is a large swamp, which it is intended shall be drained and turned into docks, as was originally done at Port Arthur, and the river, that runs into the sea at this point is to be diverted and find its course to the sea in the adjoining bay more to the east. There will be an opening in the breakwater, well to the east, of 300 feet, so placed as to admit of three large steamers lying inside the eastern pier to load and discharge, as the railway from the mainland will be extended to this eastern pier. Generally speaking there is a good depth of water within the area enclosed by the breakwater, especially close to the eastern pier, where a depth of 26 feet is obtained. Some parts of the enclosed area will have to be dredged, especially towards the west, but the holding ground throughout is good, as the bottom consists of blue clay. It is contended that this port will practically be free from ice, as it is only for a few days each winter that the sea is ever frozen in the neighbourhood, and the circular shape of the breakwater will deflect floating ice brought up by the currents, the exact direction of which have been ascertained. Floating ice will be prevented from drifting into the entrance to the port by strong iron chains, which will be placed in position when

necessary, and diverting the course of the river as above noted will prevent the sea from freezing inside the breakwater.

It will naturally be asked how a revenue is to be obtained sufficient to pay for the enormous cost of this proposed scheme, where there is not a vestige of trade of any kind. The promoters of the scheme are of opinion that the development of the mineral wealth of the province will suffice for this in a great measure, and they propose to centre the various industries that will arise from the production of coal, iron, copper, and other metals in various parts of the province at the newly established port. It is contended, for one thing, that the great coal-field of the Kaiping district is capable of immense development, and Mr. Detring has a record of many borings made at different points which show seams of coal varying from a depth of a few feet to one great one of thirty feet, so that apparently a second Staffordshire lies close at hand. Near to Shanhaukuau there is, according to the same authority, and an excellent seam of anthracite coal. This convenient production of coal will serve for the manufacture of iron at Chingwantao, as the ore can be brought by rail to the new port without difficulty. This and other kindred industries will soon develop Chingwantao into an important manufacturing centre. In addition it is to be the great shipping port of the North, and take the place of Tangku, as it will have none of the disadvantages under which that place labours. The new port will accommodate steamers of great draught, and as the route from the Shantung Promontory is 50 miles nearer to Chingwantao than to Taku; it follows that not only will steamers prefer to go there, but that vessels of much greater carrying capacity can be put on the line than is now possible for the Northern trade; and further that they will make the passage from Shanghai in 48 hours. In fact Chingwantao will not only become the great coal depot of China as Moji is that of Japan; but it is also intended to attract to the new port all the machinery that is required for mining and other industries in the North, and commodious fitting shops will be built for the erection and repair of same, to be afterwards forwarded by rail to the destination for which it is intended. Of course it is expected that piece goods and other foreign imports will be shipped to the north via Chingwantao, which it is calculated will be open all the year round.

The capital for this enormous development is to be provided by London, but Mr. Detring did not say what security the financiers would have for their investment or how long they would be willing to wait for any return for their advances. It is certainly a vast scheme, and if Mr. Detring can succeed in making London capitalists as sanguine of success as he is himself, some of the present foreign residents in China may live to see Chingwantao in all its glory as depicted on the plan.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE FREIGHT SQUEEZE AT SINGAPORE.

Singapore, 20th October.

In our remarks on the sudden rise in homeward freights as the consequence of a meeting of the Conference representatives in Singapore on Wednesday, we stated that the rise of 5/- brought the rate up to 35/- Measurement is now, as a matter of fact, 52/6 per ton. This high rate is telling very hardly on shippers, and talk is going round of means to circumvent the Conference. That is a matter that may safely be left to commercial men, but it might be mentioned that an arrangement for a vessel carrying a cargo of coal here and freight homeward seems feasible, a fair all-round rate being charged. We are told that the price of coal here is higher than it ought to be in consequence of tramps refusing coal to Singapore, because there is no chance of getting freight homeward.

The suddenness of the rise seems to have pressed hardest on those firms who do not combine shipping and produce business. They, of course, had no notice of the intended rise; they could not book freight to themselves in advance, and had to stand the racket of the increase.

CANTON NOTES.

FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."

Kang Yi, the High Commissioner, will leave for Shanghai by the *Kwang Lee* in a day or two. His Excellency paid official farewell calls on the 30th ultimo on all the mandarins.

It is reported that the leading merchants of the seventy-two guilds have promised to pay to the Government annually 4,000,000 taels, which sum is to be raised from the different shops according to their business large or small, as a substitute for all likin taxes. Some say this will prove to be mere talk, for it will be exceedingly difficult to get the merchants to pay their proper shares. His Excellency has refused to permit the farming out of the pigeon lottery and fantan gambling.

Owing to the long continued drought, the local authorities are praying for rain daily in the *Shing Wong* temple. The Viceroy and the Governor will go personally to *Po Lo* temple, near Whampoa, on the 10th instant, to pray for rain.

It is reported that negotiations have been opened with Kang Yi, the High Commissioner, by Wong Chuen-siu, the late Director of the Lekin Bureau, with a view to compounding the crimes alleged to have been committed by the latter. Kang asks that \$70,000 be paid to the Government. Wong offers \$400,000.

Sham Chun-hün, late Provincial Treasurer of Kwangtung, who carried away the good wishes of the people, for he made strong efforts to parify the Canton administration and brought many charges against Wong Chuen-siu and other officials of making squeezes, has memorialized the Throne censuring Viceroy Tan on account of his being unable to keep his subordinates from making squeezes and taking no steps to root out the pirates and robbers. He says that since Tan became Viceroy the robbers have become bolder and more fierce day by day.

On the 25th October some soldiers were sent from Canton to Fa-un for the capture of some notorious robbers. The robbers, hearing of this, gathered a good number together and marched to a place named Kufong to attack the soldiers by surprise. When the soldiers approached, the robbers opened fire, and the soldiers were obliged to make their escape with seven killed and ten wounded. The case has been reported to the Viceroy, who has sent two hundred soldiers to the scene.

All the junks plying between Canton and Fa-un, Kwoon-ju, Samshui, and Kamkai have stopped running on account of the danger from pirates at Mankau, which they have to pass on the way.

HONGKONG.

The Hongkong Church Missionary Society has commenced the issue of a small journal entitled *From Month to Month*, giving missionary notes and news.

The return of communicable diseases notified as occurring on the colony last week shows that there was one case of plague (found dead on board the steamer *Fatshan* by the Police), one case of enteric fever, and one case (fatal) of puerperal fever.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday a coolie named Tung Tai was committed for trial on a charge of wilful murder. On the 24th September he and a street coolie named Fong Wai quarrelled and prisoner is alleged to have struck deceased a blow on the head with a bamboo, the wound subsequently causing his death. Dr. Bell said deceased was brought to the Government Civil Hospital unconscious by Inspector McLennan. He was in a dying condition. He had a small skin wound about one-eighth of an inch long on the top of the scalp, slightly on the right side. He died at half-past seven o'clock. A post mortem examination of body showed that all the internal organs were healthy. Under the wound on the scalp there was an extensive star-shaped fracture extending right and left to the base of the skull. There was a small clot of blood immediately under the fracture. On the left side the whole surface of the brain was covered with blood. Fracture of the skull was the cause of death. Mr. Gomperts ordered \$20 to be given to the widow of the deceased out of the poor box.

The names of the new directors of the Tung Wa Hospital and the annual accounts of the institution are published in the *Gazette*. The income amounted to Tls. 24,889.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that no dog brought from Japan will be permitted to land in this colony for a period of six months from the date of the notification, namely, 24th Oct.

At a regular meeting of the Victoria Pre-captory held on the 26th October, E. P. Sir Kt. F. D. Goddard was reelected to the office of E. P. for the ensuing year and Sir Kt. J. J. Bryan Treasurer.

The second edition of Consul-General Wildman's charming "Tales of the Malayan Coast" has just arrived. In this edition will be found a full page picture of Admiral Dewey, a full page picture of Mr. Wildman, and a full-page autograph letter from Admiral Dewey to Mr. Wildman. We understand that the book has had a remarkable run, the first edition selling out in little more than a month.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* says:—One of the bitter fruits of the boilermakers' strike in this city is seen in the order for work to be done in Hongkong on Army transports which was formerly done here. And the worst of it is that such work when once diverted remains diverted to the end. San Francisco has never recovered the iron moulding which was lost through the greatest strike this city has ever seen.

Notwithstanding the severe sentences passed at the Supreme Court upon men charged with robbery being armed, there seems to be no diminution of this class of offence. Two exceptional cases took place on Wednesday night. In one case some eight men armed with knives visited the house of the signalman at the Peak, while the man was absent, and stole money and property to the value of \$12. Subsequently three of the men went to the house of the watchman, who was also absent. They attacked his wife, stabbing her about the head and neck and then tying her up, after which they took away money and property to the value of \$57. The woman is now in the hospital.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The prospectus has been issued of the Shanghai Steam Laundry Co., Limited. The proposed capital is Tls. 50,000.

Lieut. A. H. Oldham, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, takes command of H.M.S. *Snipe* and Lieut. Hillman transfers to the *Woodlark*.

Mr. Alfred A. Krauss, in a letter to the *Manchester Guardian* on the proposed Burmo-Chinese Railway, says:—I can give an instance of the increase in the value of land in the immediate neighbourhood of railways recently opened in China. About five acres of land at Tientsin and at Wogung were sold in the year 1880 for £700. The railroads have since been extended to each place, and the ten acres are now valued at upwards of £15,000.

The *N. C. Daily News* of 28th October, says:—The German steamer *Mathilde*, which we reported in our yesterday's issue as having met with a mishap, broke her tail-shaft when half-way between Shawieshan and Kiaochau. The accident was evidently the result of a hidden flaw in the metal as the sea at the time was perfectly smooth and no undue strain was brought on the shafting. The vessel was too far to the westward to be sighted by the numerous steamers making to and from the Promontory; however, she was fortunately picked up by the German cruiser *Hertha* bound from Kiaochau to Shanghai and towed to port.

During the present year, says the *Union*, three convictions have been obtained at the Mixed Court Shanghai, against natives who were charged with incendiarism, the last delinquent being sentenced on 20th October to eighteen months' imprisonment. The British Assessor said:—He wished to point out that in issuing these policies if the Insurance Companies did not protect themselves by ordering an inspection of the place, they would be putting a premium on arson. He visited the place himself yesterday and found that the value of the contents was nothing near the amount insured for. It was a clear case of arson and a foreign inspection of the house ought to have been ordered by the Insurance Company.

We learn that a serious discovery in connection with the Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei has recently been disturbing the British officers at that station. By some means one of the non-commissioned officers became possessed of a number of documents in Chinese, found in the quarters of the men, and by the aid of the interpreter—who by the way is a German—it was learned that these papers were tickets of membership and the rules of a secret society of a very undesirable character to which their owners belonged. As result twenty or thirty men were summarily discharged. But we, who know something about China, do not imagine this will stamp out secret society work amongst Chinese recruits at Weihaiwei. Shantung is fairly honeycombed with such organizations.—*China Gazette*.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	9,514,030	10,608,322
Amoy.....	221,484	390,250
Foochow	13,095,083	11,403,050
Canton ..	4,421,445	3,771,108
	26,903,242	26,177,028

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai.....	1,222,849	1,132,577
Amoy	8,339,928	7,253,022
Foochow	5,630,617	5,876,852
	15,193,394	14,262,451

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lb.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	25,363,948	22,676,90

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	22,212,276	21,084,786
Kobe.....	11,782,517	11,235,261
	33,994,793	32,320,047

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 28th October.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular):—The home markets are firm, the quotation for Blue Elephant in London is 12/9 and for Gold Kiling in Lyons Fcs. 31.50. Raw Silk.—The market is much better this week, the home markets are stronger and prices show an advance of 1ls. 2s. to 1ls. 5s. Total settlements are some 1,750 bales. The Chinese have been operating on this market as well and a fair quantity has been bought to be sent back in the country to be made into Hand Filatures. Yellow Silk.—Market quiet, a fair business has been done, and some 250 bales have been settled. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, October 21st to 27th, are: 864 bales White, 365 bales Yellow and 75 bales Wild Silks. Hand Filatures And Re-Reels.—The market is very strong and the demand still continues both from the Continent and America; prices show a decided advance; the Mayhenyu having been taken at 1ls. 2s. per picul advance during the past fortnight. Settlements are some 500 bales, divided between the two markets. Steam Filatures are very strong, and very little can be bought in fine sizes, on which the demand runs. Settlements are fully 200 bales, all for the Continent. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,428 bales to America, 2,258 bales to the Continent, 43 bales to London, and 6 bales to Japan. Waste Silk.—A very strong market for Gum Wastes, which are now very high: Settlements reported are: at 1ls. 2s. 60/60 White Fine Gum 75 p. c. I, } 189/1871. 20 p. c. II and 5 p. c. III, } 105/10. 100 White Coarse Gum 60 p. c. I, } 189/1871. 80 p. c. II and 10 p. c. III, } 105/10. Shanghai Pongees.—7,000/8,000 pieces of 18/19 by 18/19 yds. by 22/23 ozs. cargo have been settled at 1ls. 3s. 0d. at 1ls. 3s. 5s.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.	
1899-1900	1898-9
bales.	bales.
Shanghai	45,597
Canton	16,788
Yokohama	11,788
77,123	55,449

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.	
1899-1900	1898-9
bales.	bales.
Shanghai	5,793
Canton	5,333
Yokohama	13,559
24,635	15,624

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—The market remains much the same as last reported. Quotations for Formosa are \$72.50 to \$72.60 sales 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—The weakness continues and prices show a further decline. Quotations are:—
 Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$8.64 to \$8.68 pic.
 do. " 2, White... 7.88 to 7.92 "
 Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 5.76 to 5.79 pic.
 do. " 2, Brown... 5.60 to 5.62 "
 Swatow, No. 1, White... 8.55 to 8.80 "
 do. " 1, White... 8.55 to 8.88 "
 Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 5.65 to 5.70 "
 do. " 2, Brown... 5.55 to 5.58 "
 Foochow Sugar Candy.... 12.50 to 12.55 "
 Shekloong 11.65 to 11.70 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Calchas*, sailed on the 20th Oct. For London:—2,718 boxes tea (57,078 lbs. Sc., 7,825 boxes tea 164,325 lbs. Sc. caper, 1189, particulars unknown, and 750 boxes mats, particulars unknown), 225 casks and 4,614 cases preserves, 50 cases palm leaf fans, 160 cases pearl shells, 60 cases essential oil, 4 cases cigars, 141 cases indigo, 32 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases Chinaware, 1 case earthenware, 7 cases and 100 bales feathers, 175 bales waste silk, 1,222 bales hemp, 75 bales canes, and 27 packages sundries. For Liverpool:—3,000 bales hemp and 1 case blackwoodware. For Glasgow:—100 casks wet ginger, 100 cases dry ginger, 1 case china, and 1 case cloth. For Manchester:—556 bales waste silk. For London option Manchester:—200 bales waste silk. For London option Hamburg:—100 casks ginger. For London option Antwerp option Hamburg:—67 boxes bristles. For Amsterdam:—105 boxes ginger. For Hamburg:—200 cases selected cassia, 100 cases broken cassia, 51 cases palm leaf fans, 50 cases staranised, 2 cases bristles, 134 cases galangal, and 66 cases canes.

Per P & O steamer *Parramatta*, sailed on the 28th October. For London:—17 cases cigars and 15 cases M. O. P. shells from Manila. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—30 bales bristles, 100 bales waste silk, 92 bales raw silk, 2 cases silks, 3 cases cigars, and 1 box ladies cloak. For Marseilles:—332 bales raw silk and 4 cases silks. For Lyons:—613 bales raw silk and 1 case silks. For Milan:—5 cases raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—Bengal.—There has been very little demand for this drug during the past week and rates have declined in consequence. Quotations close at \$920 for New Patna and \$890 for New Benares.

Malwa.—The market has ruled dull and transactions have been few. Latest figures are as follows:—

New... \$870 with all c. of — to — cavity.
 Old (2 yrs.) \$870 " " " to 1 "
 " (3/4 ..) \$880 " " " to 1 "
 " (3/6 ..) \$890 " " " to — "

Persian.—Oily drug, none in stock, while paper-wrapped somewhat improved in value. Current quotations \$650 to \$820 for paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as follows:—
 New Patna 649 chests.
 Old Patna 5 "
 New Benares 456 "
 Malwa 840 "
 Persian 1,060 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Oct. 28	930	—	905	—	870	—
Oct. 29	930	—	905	—	870	—
Oct. 30	930	—	900	—	870	—
Oct. 31	930	—	900	—	870	—
Nov. 1	925	—	895	—	870	—
Nov. 2	925	—	895	—	870	—
Nov. 3	920	—	890	—	870	—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—The decline in prices continues, the market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary..... \$2.65 to 2.70
 " Round, Good quality 2.95 to 3.00
 " Long 3.35 to 3.40
 Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 3.05 to 3.10
 " Garden, " No. 1 ... 3.45 to 3.45
 " White 3.80 to 3.85
 " Fine Cargo..... 4.10 to 4.15

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*:—50 bales No. 8 at \$77, 1,050, bales No. 10 at \$78 to \$92, 550 bales No. 12 at \$79 to \$88.50, 500 bales No. 16 at \$91 to \$102, 1,150 bales No. 20 at \$96 to \$103. *Grey Shirtings*:—600 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue Seals at \$3.27 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.22 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.20, 1,200 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue Joss at \$3.30. *White Shirtings*:—1,000 pieces S. M. at \$4.50, 500 pieces S. O. at \$4.50, 500 pieces Gold goose at \$4.70, 500 pieces Flower Chop \$3.35, 500 pieces N 600 \$4.77 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces S. Q \$4.75, 500 pieces Gold goose \$4.72 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces Gold goose at \$4.70, 1,000 pieces S. M. at \$4.50, 500 pieces S. O. at \$4.50. *T. Cloths*:—1,200 pieces 8 lbs. C C at \$3.30, 300 pieces 8 lbs. V V at \$3.15. *White Irishes*:—500 pieces fold No. 1 at \$5.17 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces No. 2 at \$4.87 $\frac{1}{2}$.

METALS.—*Quicksilver*:—200 flasks at \$178 to arrive, 300 flasks at \$180 to arrive, 200 flasks at \$175, 300 flasks at \$176. *Iron*:—1,260 piculs square, round, and flat bars at \$610 to arrive, 1,000 bundle sward round rods at \$610 to arrive.

SHANGHAI 28th October.—(From Messrs. Noël Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report Piece Goods.)—It is really beginning to look as though business had finished for the Season, from the apathetic manner of the dealers at present. The past week has certainly broken the record for the smallness of the transactions that have taken place, at this time of the year, either from stock or forward, the monotony being only relieved by the fairly good clearances of former purchases, though these are showing signs of falling off. The dearness of money continues to harass the trade and is accountable to some extent for the dulness of the market, at the same time the dealers are no doubt well supplied with goods that they had bought to arrive at quite reasonable prices, compared to what is required now for fresh business. A few Importers are in the enviable position of holding cheaply bought cargo and are biding their time until prices get more on a par with those ruling at home. As yet the country has had very little necessity to feel the rise that has taken place at the producing centres, but the supply of low cost goods must be soon running out, and then will be the time to see the effect on consumers. The general impression is that the demand will be much curtailed, but it is difficult to see what is to take the place of Cotton goods for clothing, as the values of Silk and Skins have likewise advanced very appreciably. The only market that has shown any life is Chefoo, which, however, is only a small consumer at the best of times, but there is certainly an improved enquiry from thence, for American goods more particularly. The drought is still the excuse for the quietness of the Tientsin buyers, though it is said the stocks there are running down, but still they refrain from buying. Newchwang is expected to be closed in about three weeks and is still much troubled with the plague, which has apparently had the effect of curtailing the steamer traffic with that port, somewhat to the inconvenience of the trade. There is very little enquiry from Hankow or the

River Ports generally at present, and the Szechuen men continue to hold off. The British Admiral on this station is at present visiting the upper reaches of the Yangtze, and it is therefore hoped that before long we shall hear of one of the new River gunboats attempting the reach Chungking. The Yarn market is at a standstill, holders of all Spinnings asking higher prices, which the dealers here are not inclined to pay. The Bombay market is said to be four or five taels over the present rates here. A paper published in Osaka announces that a telegram had been received by the Japan Canton Spinner's Association there to the effect that the Spinning Companies at Bombay have adopted a resolution that from the 1st of November to 1st March next the Mills shall work only four days a week. The Local Mills have again abstained from selling, but native Cotton is lower without inducing business.

METALS 30th October.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefeld & Co.'s Report)—Metals have been the subject of considerable activity, and prices of transactions closed and quoted show a very decided upward tendency, though they are still below rates at which large orders can be taken for home lands. The following transactions have been reported, but we hear of others having been done, though unable to give particulars this mail:—1,500 cases Bamboo Steel 14s. 8d., c. i. f.; 100 tons Goffin Nailrods 190s. c. i. f.; 100 tons Goffin Nailrods Tls. 4.85; 50 tons Glasgow Horse-shoes 110s. 6d., c. i. f.; 50 tons Boiler Plate 107s. 6d. c. i. f.; 40 cases Yellow Metal Sheathing, 14/16 £68 c. i. f.; 100 cases Galvanised Sheet Iron, 28 guage, 217/10, c. i. f.; and 500 cases Wire Nails 11s. 10d. c. i. f. At Auction.—80 tons Cable Wire Tls 3.26.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—Another very quiet week, but rates in some stocks show an improvement.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have had a boom and have been negotiated at from 330 to 338 in small and at 340 in fair lots and a small sale was effected at 342. Market closes quieter at 340 per cent. prem. Nationals have changed hands at \$27 and close at \$28.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have found buyers in small lots at \$242. China Traders, Cantons, Straits, and the Northern Insurances neglected and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs remain steady at \$330, and Chinas at \$86 to \$87, the latter with a small business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have ruled very quiet with small sales at \$28 $\frac{1}{2}$, and close with buyers at that rate. Indo-Chinas remain steady at \$79 with little or no business to report. Douglasses continue on offer at \$47 $\frac{1}{2}$ without bringing buyers into the market. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are obtainable at \$130 without inducing business. Luzons unchanged.

MINING.—Punjoms have improved to \$10 $\frac{1}{2}$ after small sales at \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$, \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$, and \$9.75. Charbonnages are still enquired for at \$260, and shares have been placed at that rate. Olivers have changed hands at \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$7 for A. and B. respectively after sales at lower rates. Jelobus fell to \$13.75 over settlements but have since recovered to \$14.75. Raubs continue very steady but without business at \$64 $\frac{1}{2}$. Queen Mines have changed hands at quotation and close with sellers.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have improved to 525 per cent. prem. with small sales, but close with sellers at that rate. Kowloon Wharves continue neglected with sellers and no sales at \$89. Wankees unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands show a further improvement to \$110 after sales at \$106, \$107, and \$108, market closing firm at \$110. Hotels continue neglected with sellers at \$115 and no buyers. West Points and Humphreys remain quiet and without business.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs have changed hands at quotation. The rates for the Northern Mills are, in the absence of local business, taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$28 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$28 $\frac{1}{2}$, closing at latter rate. Watsons are obtainable at \$16.40 without finding buyers. Ices have changed hands at \$125, Star Ferries at \$19, and China Providents at \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.	[\$55.0.
Banks—			
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	840 p. ct. prem. =	
China & Japan, ordy.	\$4	£1.	
Do. deferred	£1	25 5s.	
Nat'l. Bank of China B. Shares	£8	\$28, buyers	
Foun. Shares...	£8	\$28, buyers	
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	£1	nominal	
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$14, buyers	
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9, buyers	
China Sugar	\$100	\$130, sellers	
Cotton Mills—			
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 62 1/2 sellers	
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70	
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 75.	
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 350	
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57 1/2	
Hongkong	\$100	\$60, sales & buyers	
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$5.25.	
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	\$42 1/2, buyers	
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$28 1/2, sellers	
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.	
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127.	
Hongkong Electric {			
H. H. L. Tramways	\$10	\$11, sellers ex n. iss.	
Hongkong Hotel	\$100	\$147 1/2, buyers	
Hongkong Ice	\$50	\$115, sellers	
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$25	\$125, sellers	
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$88, sellers	
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$190	
Insurance—	\$125	\$225 p. ct. prem. =	
Canton	\$50	\$136.	
China Fire	\$20	\$86, sellers	
China Traders'	\$25	\$59, sellers	
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers	
North-China	£25	Tls. 190.	
Straits	\$20	\$4, sellers	
Union	\$50	\$242, sellers	
Yangtze	\$60	\$121.	
Land and Building—			
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$110, buyers	
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers	
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, sellers	
West Point Building	\$50	\$30, sellers	
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47, sellers	
Mining—			
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$260, sales & byes.	
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$5	\$1.70, sellers	
Do. Preference	£1	62 1/2 cts., buyers	
Jelebu	\$5	\$14 1/2.	
Queen's Mines Ld...	25c.	50 cts., sellers	
Oliver's Mines, A...	\$5	\$9 1/2, buyers	
Do. B...	\$4 1/2	\$7, sellers	
Punjom	\$6	\$10 1/2, sellers	
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.50, buyers	
Rauts	15s. 10d.	\$64 1/2	
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$18 1/2, buyers	
Steamship Cos.—			
China and Manila...	\$50	\$90, sellers	
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£9 1/2, sellers	
China Ordinary	£10	£7, buyers	
Do.	£5	£3, 10s., buyers	
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47 1/2, sellers	
H. Canton and M...	\$15	\$29, sellers	
Indo-China S. N...	£10	£79.	
Star Ferry	\$7 1/2	\$19 1/2, sellers	
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	\$5, sellers	
Do.	\$3	\$3,	
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2	
D.	\$10	\$10, nominal	
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$45, buyers	
Watson & Co., A. S...	\$10	\$16.40, sellers	
J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.			

SHANGHAI, 30th October.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A moderate business was done, chiefly in Indo-China, Wharf, and Langkat shares. The prospectus of the Shanghai Steam Laundry Co., Ltd. has been published. The Capital is to be Tls. 50,000 dividend into 2,500 shares of Tls. 20 each, of which 2,000 are offered for public subscription, the list closing at noon on Saturday, the 18th November. According to the estimates the Co. ought to be a success, as it will be able to do the work better than the native washermen, at the same price. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Sales are reported, for the 31st current at 312, and for the 30th November at 320 per cent. and for 28th February at 335 per cent. premium. The London quotation is £59. In Hongkong shares are wanted 331 per cent. premium. We quote 320 per cent. as the closing cash rate. National Bank of China.—In Hongkong shares are wanted at 327. Marine Insurance.—No business reported. North Chinas are offering at Tls. 190. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs are offering in Hongkong at \$330, and Chinas at \$37; while buyers offer \$86. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares are offering in Hong-

kong at \$294. Indo-China S. N. shares changed hands at Tls. 60/60 1/2 for November, 60/61 for December, 63 for March and 68 1/2 for April. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$64. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 212 1/2, and in those of the Shanghai Engineering & Dock Co. at Tls. 96. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 247 1/2 cash and 250 for December. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 83, and are wanted. Hongkong Land Investment shares are wanted at \$106. Humphrey's Estate & Finance shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$10. Weihaiwei Land & Building shares changed hands at Tls. 25. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 207 1/2, International Cotton Mill shares at Tls. 70, and American Cigarette shares at Tls. 60. E-wo International and Yah-loong shares are offering. while Soy-chee shares are wanted at Tls. 300. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 57 to 60 cash, 60 1/2 for November and 66 for March. A large business was done in Shanghai. Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 270/250 cash, 270/255 for November, Tls. 280/270 for December, and Tls. 280 for March. Loans.—Shanghai Municipal Debentures of 1898 changed hands at Tls. 10 1/2. Quotations are:—

BANKS,

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$525.00.

Bank of China and Japan, Ld.—£1.0.0.

Do. ordinary.—£5.5.0.

National Bank of China, Ld.—\$25.00.

COTTON MILLS,

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ld.—Tls. 68.00.

Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—\$60.00.

International Cotton Man. Co., Ld.—Tls. 70.00.

Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ld.—Tls. 77.00.

Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ld.—Tls. 350.00.

Docks, WHARVES, &c.,

Boyd & Co., Ld., Founders.—Nominal.

Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 195.00.

Hongkong & K'loon Wharf Company.—\$91.00.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ld.—\$758.50.

S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 212.50.

Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 96.00.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 247.50.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ld.—\$136.00.

China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.—\$87.00.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ld.—\$59.00.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld.—\$324.50.

North China Insurance Co., Ld.—Tls. 190.00.

Straits Insurance Co., Ld.—\$6.50.—Nominal.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ld.—\$242.

Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ld.—\$125.00.

LANDS,

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ld.—\$106.00.

Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ld.—\$10.00.

Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 88.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ld.—\$9.50.

Punjom Mining Co., Ld., pref. shares.—\$1.50.

Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ld.—\$64.50.

Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING,

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00.

Do. ordinary, £5 paid.—Tls. 30.00.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ld.—\$48.00.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$29.50.

Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ld.—Tls. 60.00.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185.00.

Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ld.—Tls. 235.00.

Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ld.—T. Tls. 84.00.

SUGAR,

China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.—\$135.00.

Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ld.—\$48.00.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ld.—Tls. 65.50.

MISCELLANEOUS,

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 60.00.

Central Stores, Ld.—\$11.00.

China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.

Hall & Holtz, Ld.—\$36.00.

Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$35.00.

Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.

Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Nominal.

Shanghai Gas Co.—\$207.50.

Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.—Tls. 80.00.

Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ld., Tls. 36.00.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ld.—Tls. 250.

Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.

Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 60.00.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.—Tls. 265.00.

Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$17.00.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—FRIDAY, 3rd November.

Telegraphic Transfer 1/10 1/2

Bank Bills, on demand 1/11

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11 1/2

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2

Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2

Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.41 1/2

Credits, at 4 months' sight 47

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 196

Credits, 60 days' sight 46 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 142

Bank, on demand 142

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 142

Bank, on demand 142

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 71 1/2

Private, 30 days' sight 72 1/2

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 6 1/2 % pm

ON MANILA.—

On demand 2 1/2 % pm

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 2 1/2 % pm

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ... 10.38

GOLD LEAF. 1/10 fine per tael 53.40

TONNAGE.</

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

October— ARRIVALS.

28, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 28, Chinkiang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 28, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
 28, Pascal, French cruiser, from Saigon.
 28, Chwnshan, British str., from Bangkok.
 28, Energia, British str., from New York.
 29, Chiuyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 29, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 29, Kweiyang, British str., from N'ehwang.
 29, Taicheong, German str., from Hongay.
 29, Pronto, German str., from Canton.
 30, Orestes, British str., from Shunghai.
 30, Tsinan, British str., from Japan.
 30, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 30, Idomeneus, British str., from Liverpool.
 30, Ixion, British str., from Liverpool.
 31, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
 31, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
 31, China, German str., from Newchwang.
 31, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.
 31, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 31, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 31, Loyal, German str., from Canton.
 31, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
 31, Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
 31, Algerine, British cruiser, from Amoy.
 31, Oanfa, British str., from Shanghai.
 31, Venus, American str., from Manila.
 31, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.

November—

1, Empress of India, Brit. str., from V'couver.
 1, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 1, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 1, Kwangping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 1, Dagmar, German str., from Swatow.
 1, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 1, Germania, German str., from Moji.
 1, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 1, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 1, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 2, Java, British str., from Yokohama.
 2, Taksang, British str., from Wuhu.
 2, Kukiang, British str., from Wuhu.
 2, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 2, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Indravelli, British str., from New York.
 3, Choyang, British str., from Manila.
 3, Tonkin, French str., from Shanghai.
 3, Zweena, British str., from Labuan.
 3, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 3, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 3, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
 3, Chiuyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 3, Trym, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 3, Linnet, British vessel, from Yokohama.

October— DEPARTURES.

27, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 28, Parramatta, British str., for Europe.
 28, Argyll, British str., for New York.
 28, Loyal, German str., for Canton.
 28, Trigonia, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Changsha, British str., for Yokohama.
 28, P. C. Kiao, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
 28, Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
 28, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, St. Helens, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 29, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Terrier, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 29, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 29, Doyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 29, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Etha Rickmers, German ship, for Bangkok.
 29, Liguria, Italian cruiser, for Chefoo.
 30, Chiuyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 30, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 31, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 31, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 31, Josephus, Amr. ship, for New York.
 31, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 31, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 31, Orestes, British str., for London.
 31, Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.

November—

1, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 1, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.

1, Energia, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Guthrie, British str., for Kobe.
 1, Esmeralda, British str., for Hongay.
 1, China, German str., for Canton.
 1, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 1, Manual Lagano, Amr. sh., for New York.
 1, Loyal, German str., for Hongay.
 1, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 1, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
 1, Ixion, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Oanfa, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Pronto, German str., for Saigon.
 1, Menmuir, British str., for Saigon.
 1, Pascal, French cr., for Kwangchuanwan.
 2, Idomeneus, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Sungkang, British str., for Manila.
 2, Tsinan, British str., for Sydney.
 2, Bamberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 2, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 2, Kiukiang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Taksang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 3, Shantung, British str., for Hongay.
 3, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 3, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Misumi.
 3, Presidente Sarmiento, Argentine cruiser, for Manila.
 3, Kaiserin Elizabeth, Austrian cruiser, for Singapore.
 3, Shantung, British str., for Hongay.
 3, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 3, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 3, Java, British str., for London.
 3, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 3, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 3, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Coptic, from San Francisco, &c., Dr. Annie K. Scott, Miss Scott, Mrs. F. Bowen, Mr. John Anderson, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Dobson, Miss L. H. Duryea, Miss L. H. Booker, Major S. S. Long, Messrs. T. H. Glover, Peter Barr, Mr. and Mrs. Hooper, Mrs. C. C. Wadsworth, Mrs. W. T. Barton and 2 sons, Mr. D. C. Nugent and family, Mr. Geo. L. Bassett, Mrs. Bassett, Mrs. W. A. Thornton, Mr. A. H. Hamilton Smythe, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Caldwell, Captain Wood, Mr. R. Dufuffet, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Bullard, Mrs. Donato, Mrs. H. E. Stafford, Mrs. C. M. Graves, Mrs. E. L. McAdory, Mr. S. Antoldi, Miss M. J. Morrow and 2 children, Miss Louise Brink, Mr. A. S. Edwards, Mrs. Long and child, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Bass and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Barnett, Miss Barnett, Miss J. F. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mora, Messrs. G. Waghorn, H. Franstuer, Robt. W. Forthwick, and A. Moir, Miss Cunniffe, Messrs. P. Morgan and John Wadsworth, Mrs. A. J. Stimson, and Mr. L. H. Porter.

Per Thales, from Coast Port, Mrs. Pigot and child and Mr. Forbes.

Per Bengal, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr. Elias Jumar; from London, Mrs. A. F. Greig, Messrs. C. H. P. Hay and F. S. Rayner; for Shanghai, Misses F. J. Hoskyns, E. M. Smith, S. E. Morris, E. M. Tucker, J. Engvall, K. Rasmussen, E. Turner, L. Kohler, Mr. and Mrs. Willett and child, Mr. F. W. Inglis, and Mr. F. B. and Mrs. Fellows; for Yokohama, Mrs. Collier and Miss Halstead; for Manila, Mr. Williams; for Hongkong, from Gibraltar, Mr. F. F. Christensen; from Marseilles, Mr. E. F. Stanton and Major Rodgers; for Shanghai, Mrs. H. Morris, two daughters, governess and infant, Mr. Paul Gravier, Mr. and Mrs. Chambers and Mr. and Mrs. Grodrich; for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr. W. A. Bradley, Mrs. Ah Leck and Mr. Ah Cheong and sister; for Yokohama, Mr. A. Koppel; for Shanghai, Miss Q. Hunter.

Per Kagoshima Maru, from Moji, Mr. W. Sprich.

Per Tsinan, from Japan, &c., Mr. Brown and Miss Twineham.

Per Lightning, from Calcutta, &c., Messrs. A. L. Harraps, C. Bradford, J. P. Downs, F. S. Thoburn, W. J. Newland, J. F. Heynans, Rev. Aurientis, Rev. Baptista, Messrs. Abdul Kader, Abdul Ali, Reiger, G. and C. Peerbhoy, Subader Loth Singh, and Stewart.

Per Hongkong, from Haiphong, Mr. R. P. Camion.

Per Kawachi Maru, from Moji, Messrs. E. W. Palm, J. H. Samuel, B. F. Collingsworth, Minister Resident and Mrs. M. Inagaki.

Per Haiching, from Coast Ports, Viscomte de Kergareon, Mrs. Purves and child, Messrs. Malcolm and McPhan.

Per Empress of India, from Vancouver, Lord Elibank, Miss Kirby, Messrs. H. A. Belden, J. R. Woolley, R. Shewan, Capt. A. Tillet, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Cooper, Mr. G. Thorne, Dr. and Mrs. Machle and 2 children, Mrs. Schulke, Mr. C. Gsell, Mrs. May, 3 children and governess; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. K. Myers, Dr. and Mrs. Selden and infant, Mr. W. C. Macdonald, Madame O'Gorman, and Rev. Cabald; from Kobe, Mr. W. H. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Buell, Miss Buell, Mrs. and Miss Maxwell, Mgr. Watson, Dr. C. H. Vilas, Dr. Pinloff, Professor and Mrs. Kellogg; from Nagasaki, Messrs. O. K. Davis and J. T. McCutcheon; from Shanghai, Mr. A. H. Ellis, Capt. Berger, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Bowe, Mr. F. H. Brooke, Miss Luther, Mr. H. Burton, Mrs. Dadmun, Capt. and Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Tartellotte, Mrs. H. H. Fox, Messrs. E. Leitz, Newson, H. Coonley, W. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Gedge.

Per Wingsang, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Druffus.

Per Java, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. Peerbhoy; from Shanghai, Mr. H. T. Bowles; from Foochow, Mon. P. Clandel and Mon. C. H. Doyero; for Penang, from Kobe, Mrs. Parkenhand; for London, from Shanghai, Mr. E. N. Whelley, Mr. and Mrs. Donkin; from Yokohama, Messrs. Marshall, G. C. Price, R. Catfield, Ellison, Merritt, Williams, Hardy, Wellington, Hammond, Quartance, Mrs. Pallard, Mrs. A. Cameron and 2 children, Masters G. Cook and Hall.

DEPARTED.

Per Parramatta, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. A. M. Pountney, Dr. E. Bach, Messrs. C. Gruner, T. Johnson, R. Gutierrez, and Rev. H. J. Stevens; for Bombay, Mr. N. Muncherji; for Marseilles, Mr. H. Hellier; for London, Capt. R. Unsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Mr. T. Hall, P.C. No. 71, Messrs. J. McDonald and H. C. Burrows, Mr. and Mrs. Post; from Yokohama, for Marseilles, Mr. W. H. Lan.

Per Hakata Maru, for Kobe and Yokohama, Baron and Baroness Hayashi, Major T. Ohara, Mr. G. S. Phillips, Mrs. Blade and 2 children, Miss Kiang, Miss D. Kilby, Miss E. Kilby, Messrs. W. Christensen, Austin, Westbury, H. Ikeda, T. Amaya, and Umeda.

Per Yawata Maru, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mrs. Goodale, Mrs. Irons, Major G. D. Deshon, Capt. B. M. Koehler, Mrs. E. E. Whaley, Mr. A. H. Massey, Capt. Koike, Mrs. G. L. Keen, Messrs. N. Yenami and S. Fukuichi, Miss M. Yostoku, Messrs. S. Mikawa, A. Kryner, and A. Steenburgh; for Thursday Island, Mr. Hikojiro Isoarashi; for Sydney, Mrs. E. C. Gidland and child, Miss Smith, Messrs. Y. Kobayashi, A. E. Rollinson, Dr. A. B. Nathan, Messrs. A. E. Lightbody, W. Lightbody, and T. Ohtake; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Steel.

Per Bengal, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. H. R. Kinnear and L. E. P. Jones, Mrs. Raymond, Messrs. Geo. A. March, C. Pape, T. W. Armott, and A. H. Thornton.

Per Rohilla, for Yokohama, from Hongkong, Mr. W. Haywood; from London, Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers, Mrs. Collier, and Miss Halstead; from Singapore, Mr. A. Koppel; for Nagasaki, from London, Mr. W. F. Inglis.

Per Sungkang, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Montilla, Mr. and Mrs. Hassell, Miss Waggoner, Messrs. J. McCutcheon, O. Weiss, F. F. Jewell, W. A. Spreik, Wm. Dennis, S. W. McMaster, Woolley, Comfort, J. B. de Arce, J. H. and J. C. Ackroin, G. B. Dickey, O. D. Miller, Carlos Gsell, J. C. Runkle, Mrs. Bumpua, and Mrs. Dillworth.

Per Tsinan, for Manila, Mrs. N. Steele, Messrs. H. E. Stafford, McAdony, L. B. Porter, A. Antoldi, G. W. Hooper, E. J. Young, A. Freimann, H. M. Schonauer, Mr. and Mrs. Bass, Mr. and Mrs. Nugent and 3 children; for Sydney, Messrs. J. Anderson and Barr, Mrs. Brown, and Miss Twynham; for Melbourne, Mrs. Harder and 2 children, Messrs. Brown and Mackenzie.

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